



ANNUAL REPORT



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CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAMS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs, Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, is pleased to present to the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Tennessee's 1999/2000 State Annual Report.

The 1999/2000 fiscal year has been a period of continued growth, expansion and improvement for the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP). Four new program managers have been added to the unit, increasing the expertise and capability of OCJP to facilitate integrated criminal justice planning and respond to the needs of the criminal justice system. Several innovative projects in the areas of community crime prevention and correctional treatment were initiated to increase the ability of the criminal justice system to effectively intervene in the "revolving door" cycle of crime and abuse. Tennessee's 2000-2002 Statewide Strategy for Drug Control, Violence Prevention and Criminal Justice System improvement was submitted to, and approved by, the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Strategy calls for increased involvement and participation by Tennessee's "indigenous components" in the criminal justice system to identify needs and gaps in services, develop program models to effectively address system needs, and develop and implement evaluation techniques to determine the outcome of program models selected for funding.

In the area of criminal history records improvement, OCJP has continued to combine funds from the Edward Byrne 5% "set-aside" with funds from the National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) to facilitate improvements in the criminal

history records system. Technological support was provided to local law enforcement agencies to enable them to submit criminal history information to TIBRS, Tennessee's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system. Most law enforcement agencies are now regularly submitting data to the TIBRS system, and the vast majority of agencies submitting data have been "certified" by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). Additional subgrants were issued to the District Attorney's Office and Office of the Public Defender to facilitate "information sharing" and case disposition data.

In the area of family/domestic violence, the OCJP has used collaborative funds from the Violence Against Women ACT (VAWA or STOP) Grant, the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant, the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Family Violence Shelters Grant to continue the provision of a comprehensive system of domestic violence intervention that includes prevention strategies, law enforcement and community training events and specially trained investigators and prosecutors. An increase of approximately three million dollars in the VOCA grant this past fiscal year, enabled OCJP to vastly improve its capability to serve the needs of victims of crime and complement funds appropriated through the VAWA and Family Violence Shelters Grants. Continuation funds have supported the maintenance of family emergency shelters, with the needs of victims being addressed through an array of services being offered by specially trained Victim Witness Coordinators and other domestic violence service providers.

Offenders with substance abuse treatment needs have continued to receive services including assessment, outpatient therapy, day treatment services, long-term residential treatment, and aftercare services made possible through collaborative funding with Edward Byrne and Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) grants. The Blount County Drug Court completed internal process evaluations this year to assess the effectiveness of the program model being implemented.

In the program area of Community Crime Prevention, the State of Tennessee continued to provide additional support to its communities in their ability to secure COPS grants through a state-appropriated fund known as the Safe Neighborhoods Grant. This grant, administered by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) is designed to assist local law enforcement agencies that are actively participating in or making application for the COPS Universal Hiring Program administered by the U.S. Department of Justice. This grants provides 10% of the total COPS grant, reducing the 25% cash match requirement from the local agency to 15%. Thirty-one (31) grants covering twenty-eight (28) jurisdictions were funded through the Safe Neighborhoods Grant this year at a cost of \$822,689.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) continued its support of the State's judicial system this year by providing new dollars and continuation funds for several projects in the program areas of Pre-Trial Service Delivery and Special Prosecution. This multi-faceted intervention strategy involved funds appropriated for specialized prosecutors and defenders, implementation of charge screening grants, supplemental

funds provided to four of the state's Drug Courts, and the addition of foreign language interpreters to the court system. Additional funds were appropriated to ensure safety in Tennessee's courtrooms and a Family Court Feasibility Study was completed thanks to funds appropriated through an Edward Byrne Memorial Grant. Funds were also reported for the initiation of additional Victim Offender Reconciliation Programs (VORPS) and a supplemental grant supported training of mediators and judges involved with the VORP process.

The OCJP continued funding during this fiscal year for 25 Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces that are specially trained to locate and eradicate illegal drugs. A continuation grant, issued to the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance, provided support for the ongoing operation of the Bomb and Arson Section within the State Fire Marshal's Office of the Division of the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance.

A formal evaluation to measure the effectiveness of the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces and establish a baseline of measurement for future evaluations in the State of Tennessee was continued during the past fiscal year and is scheduled for completion in October 2000. This evaluation, made possible by a separate grant issued through the Byrne Evaluation Partnership Program, will not only establish a baseline of measurement for future evaluations but will distinguish between projects that attain a high degree of success and those that attain a lesser degree of success. The evaluation will also

determine the extent to which the drug control efforts of multiple agencies have been integrated and coordinated.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) prepared and disseminated to its subgrantees in the 98/99 fiscal year the Tennessee Administrative Manual for Subrecipients of the Byrne Formula Grant. The guide was prepared to serve as a reference for the financial and programmatic requirements/responsibilities of projects funded through the Edward Byrne Grant Program. Three regional training sessions were conducted this year to acquaint subgrantees with the guidelines and requirements stipulated in the manual. Revisions to the Manual were prepared and disseminated to subgrantees as dictated by need.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) looks forward to a future of continuous improvement as we strive to better facilitate the planning and administration of the State's criminal justice system. As always, it is our sincere desire that the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) will find this report to be informative and useful in reporting the achievements that have been made possible through implementation of the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant Program.

I

INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs, in conjunction with its multi-disciplinary Executive Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, continues to fund ten program areas within six priorities originally established in its 1997/1999 Tennessee Multi-year Drug and Violent Crime Strategy. A description of the priority areas and corresponding program responses follows:

Priority Area:

Community Based Services: The incidence of illegal drugs and violent crime remains at a relatively steady, yet high level in Tennessee. Although no city is immune to violence, the problem is most acute in our largest cities. Solutions are being sought at the community level through implementation of programs that educate children and enable the State's youth to reject illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and refrain from engaging in criminal activities. Additionally, efforts must be made to engage the community in actively ensuring the safety of its citizens.

Program Response:

Community Crime Prevention: Projects funded in the area of community crime prevention seek to develop and empower community partnerships through enhanced police leadership, and the establishment of projects that implement high quality policing services. The partnership concept is central to effective implementation of this program, designed to enable citizens to regain control of, or "take back" their neighborhoods.

In order to effectively address the need to educate young children to resist involvement with drugs and illegal crime, an additional key component in this program area is the implementation of projects which provide school-based resource officers to schools exhibiting a need for this service. School-based resource officers investigate and collect information on gang activities in the school environment, may be involved in making undercover drug buys, establish a safe perimeter on the school campus, develop an “alert system” to signal and manage potential conflicts, and identify and prosecute persons involved in graffiti and vandalism on school property. Additionally, school-based resource officers conduct training sessions for faculty and staff in the area of gang related behaviors and drug involvement, and assist staff in targeting “at risk” students. Some school-based resources officers are also a part of a summer program designed to address the needs of at-risk youth through involvement in work and recreational programs.

Priority Area:

Offender Apprehension: The possession, sale, and cultivation of illegal drugs have impacted communities across the state in rural, suburban and metropolitan areas. The drug problem has enhanced violent crime activity and touches every citizen in Tennessee directly or indirectly. In addition to the physical consequences, the monetary burden has been enormous. Drug traffickers transport and distribute drugs throughout the state each day. Firearms have also played a major role as they are used more and more in violent confrontations as drug traffickers conduct their illegal activity. Individual agencies do not have the personnel or funding to combat the problem alone.

Similarly, youth and adult gangs have impacted communities across the state in rural, suburban and metropolitan areas. The gang problem has enhanced violent crime activity creating hazardous conditions such as aggravated assaults, rapes and homicides. In addition to the physical consequences, the monetary burden has been significant. Gang members and associates commit vandalism and thefts in order to financially support the gang and their illegal activities. Firearms have played a major role as they are used more and more frequently in drive-by-shootings. Gangs are often involved in drug trafficking to create further financial support of their organized crime activities. Most individual law enforcement agencies do not have the personnel or funding to combat the problem alone.

Program Response:

Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces: The creation of Judicial Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces has resulted in improved collaboration, written inter-agency agreements, pooling of resources including personnel and equipment, and a better system of addressing drug issues using a team concept. These task forces are formed under each District Attorney General and include a Board of Directors or Advisory Board that represents each participating agency.

State departments and agencies conduct covert and overt operations to disrupt drug traffickers. Covert operations target upper level drug dealers and overt operations involving the Tennessee Department of Safety and Judicial District Task Forces intercept

the drugs while in transport. Intercepting these shipments often leads to controlled deliveries in Tennessee and other states that assist in mapping out the drug routes.

Response to Gang Activity: To address the needs of children who are at risk of becoming engaged in criminal gang activities, Tennessee has funded projects for the education of children through Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT), a national program sponsored by the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF). This program provides prevention tools to law enforcement operating in a school setting and has a proven track record of success in dissuading young people from being involved with gangs. The program allows specially trained law enforcement officers the chance to instruct students as to how and why they should resist the dangers of gang and juvenile violence. Projects currently funded in this program area allow for a significant expansion of specially trained officers who can provide the necessary training to students in multiple school districts.

Priority Area:

Court Support: As public awareness has increased and community partnerships have formed, there has been an encouraging rise in the number of reported incidents to drug sales/use, violent crimes, and other criminal activities. A local result of increased reporting and investigation has been that the court systems have become overloaded with the large volume of cases. Intensified efforts by law enforcement agencies in apprehension, asset seizures, and drug removal have greatly increased the load in many of the courts of the state.

Similarly, the development of specialized investigative techniques, better education of law enforcement staff, and the addition of officers trained in specific areas of crime prevention have expanded and greatly improved the ability of the criminal justice system to effectively respond to domestic violence cases. The reported increase in domestic violence assault cases is an indication of greater public awareness in the area of victim rights and assistance, and is representative of an increased tendency to report and prosecute such cases.

Finally the efforts of the Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces have yielded impressive results, with a dramatic increase in drug eradication and arrest of those who possess, distribute, and cultivate illegal drugs.

These achievements, generated by the success of some segments of the criminal justice system, have created a major problem within another important component of the system. In the metropolitan areas, it remains difficult for the current prosecutorial staffs and courts to present and adjudicate the pending drug, violent crime and domestic violence cases in a timely manner. These issues represent both a state and national priority.

Program Response:

Pre-Trial Services: Projects funded in the program area of Pre-Trial Services are designed to identify and divert less serious offenders into appropriate alternative resources without the necessity of taking them through the complete criminal justice process, including complete and time-consuming court hearings. Pre-trial service

delivery may include components such as charge screening, referral to mediation, referral to Drug Courts, and the use of sentencing advocates who seek to offer the court a meaningful option between prison and probation.

Special Prosecution : Projects funded in this program area provide funding for the provision, training, and support of prosecutors whose work is dedicated to the prosecution of defendants implicated in child abuse, domestic violence cases or drug possession/distribution/cultivation. Prosecutors attend specialized training and workshops designed to improve their knowledge in assigned areas. They oversee all child and domestic violence cases, and most drug and violent crime cases coming into the criminal courts. Some prosecutors also handle misdemeanors coming before the General Sessions and Criminal Courts. At all levels of the justice process, other assistant prosecutors provide assistance in case resolution through the direction of the lead prosecutor. Vertical prosecution of child/domestic violence abuse and drug-related cases ensures strict, consistent prosecution, thereby increasing conviction rates and appropriate sentencing.

Priority Area:

Victim Advocacy: The criminal justice system has traditionally been offender-oriented, focusing on the apprehension, prosecution, punishment, rehabilitation and rights of the accused. Although victims and witnesses have always played a vital role in apprehension and prosecution of domestic violence offenders, the lack of understanding

by the criminal justice system of their specialized needs made their participation difficult and limited in its effectiveness.

Legislation and case laws developed over the last twenty years have created a very complex and highly specialized prosecution system. In order to ensure victims' rights, training at both the prosecutor and law enforcement level must be upgraded on an ongoing basis. A court system already inundated with other crimes is not prepared to handle the influx of these cases. Education and training is also lacking at the court level.

There is also a necessity for providing more services, appropriate notification of proceedings, and increased sensitivity to the rights of the victims to participate in the criminal justice process. Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA) 40-38-103 clearly holds the district attorney general responsible for ensuring that the above responsibilities are fulfilled. Given the current case load and structure of the court system, it is difficult to ensure that crime victims are provided with sufficient notices of all hearings, given sufficient opportunities to "be heard", and are treated with diligence and sensitivity to their specialized needs.

Program Response:

Domestic/Family Violence Training: Projects funded through the Domestic Violence Training Program are designed to provide training for law enforcement personnel in the investigation of family/domestic violence issues including sexual assault, training for prosecutors in the unique dynamics of family/domestic violence cases and the successful

prosecution of these cases, provide training for victim/witness coordinators who will specialize in cases involving family/domestic violence and crimes of violence, and provide requisite training for the investigation and prosecution of the crimes of family/domestic violence or sexual assault.

Victim/Witness Program: Projects funded through the Victim/Witness program are designed to provide victims of crime with services identified in the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights. Throughout the investigative, prosecution, and correctional stages of criminal cases, victims and witnesses are properly notified and given information in a timely way. Crime victims receive uniform rather than fragmented disjointed treatment. Competent, trained victim/witness coordinators provide services as part of a prosecution team, assisting in informing the victim about procedures, court dates, crisis intervention, support services, and appropriate referrals.

Priority Area:

Offender Rehabilitation: Many offenders in the criminal justice system do not have a high school education or marketable job skills. Their criminal lifestyle is often precipitated or exacerbated by substance abuse or addiction. Without the implementation of effective rehabilitation services, offenders often evidence a high rate of recidivism and exhibit a pattern of escalating criminal behaviors.

Program Response:

Correctional Treatment: Projects funded in the program area of Correctional Treatment are designed to provide substance abuse treatment services which complement or enhance projects currently financed through the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment for State Prisoners (RSAT) Grant, or are designed to provide viable alternatives for offenders appearing before the State's Drug Courts. This program area is designed to create a continuum of care treatment approach for substance abuse offenders in the county and state correctional system. Services provided focus on the development of the inmate's cognitive, behavioral, social, and vocational skills to solve the substance abuse and related psychosocial problems of the offender.

A major long-term goal of projects funded in the area of Correctional Treatment is to provide effective aftercare services so that an offender is not abruptly "cut off" from necessary support services upon release from incarceration. In the area of substance abuse treatment, the aftercare component in this program area will focus not only on continued outpatient substance abuse treatment, but also on other components of daily living that ensure successful re-integration into society. These components include ongoing training in job interview/job search skills, assistance and support in locating viable employment options, housing assistance, if needed, assistance in pursuing additional vocational training, and improving familial relationships.

Prison/Jail Industries: Projects funded within the program area of Prison/Jail Industries are designed to train minimum and medium security inmates in construction, building maintenance, and other trades that lead to full-time employment upon release from

incarceration, provide a means for contributing to family support, and provide a means for “giving back” to the community.

As offenders improve their vocational skills, enhanced employment skills will follow. The opportunity to participate in full-time employment that offers better salary, fringe benefits, and personal fulfillment will have a substantial positive impact on the attitude and behavior of offenders involved in the program. Long-term results include enhanced self-esteem that will enable offenders to be more self-sufficient and less prone to rely on substance abuse as a faulty “coping mechanism” to deal with an unfulfilling lifestyle. Similarly, there should be less reliance on the sale of illicit drugs as a means of providing supplemental family income. The ultimate result of projects funded in this program area will be a substantial reduction in the rate of offender recidivism and a decrease in the sale and distribution of illegal drugs.

Priority Area:

Criminal Justice Records Improvement: Tennessee has had few sources of sound criminal justice records information and has lacked adequate means to accomplish a statewide improvement of the criminal justice record system. The statewide capability to implement an efficient, cost-effective system of collecting and storing criminal justice information has not existed. Policy makers and criminal justice practitioners have had to base decisions on sketchy and inadequate information. A primary concern to the criminal justice community is Criminal History Records Information (CHRI). The spectrum of

uses of CHRI data continues to widen, thereby compounding the need to improve the quality of these records.

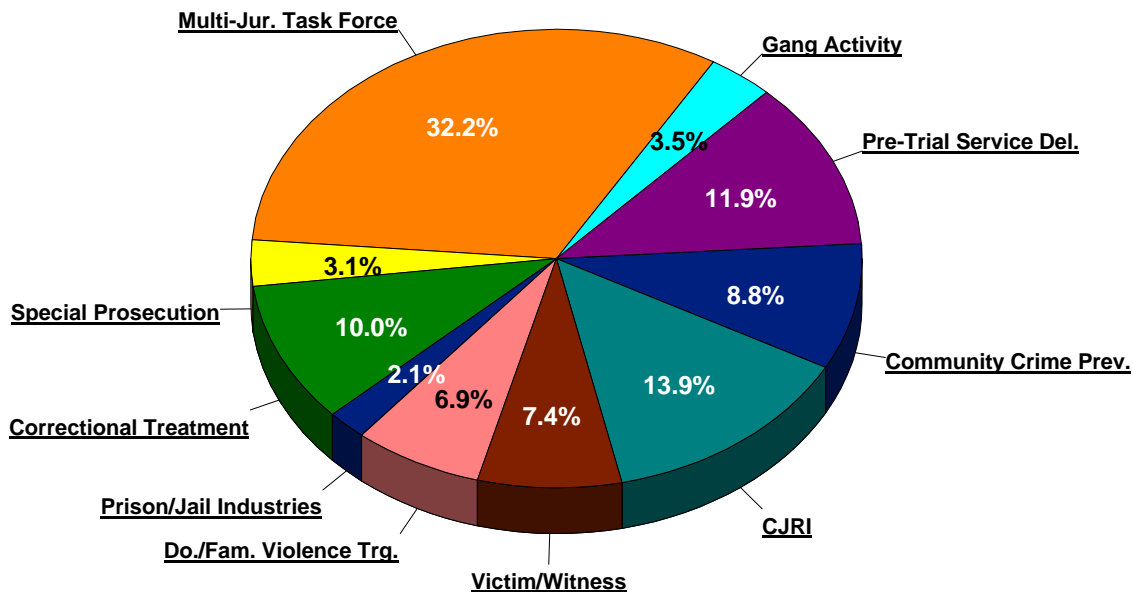
Program Response:

Criminal Justice Information Systems: The State of Tennessee, in an effort to improve the accuracy, timeliness, and completeness of criminal history information maintained in the repository of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), has undertaken an extensive effort to develop a comprehensive system in collaboration with all law enforcement and most criminal justice agencies in the state. This plan includes efforts to improve the collection capabilities of the law enforcement agencies, methods to increase the submission level and quality of criminal fingerprint cards, upgrading the central Automated Fingerprint Information System (AFIS), as well as the regional AFIS' and the central criminal history information center computer interface of all law enforcement agencies, courts, prosecutors, and correctional institutions with the central repository to improve the timeliness, accuracy, and ease of access to data. Projects funded through this program complement activities undertaken with the National Criminal History Improvement Plan (NCHIP) Grants.

The following graph represents all Edward Byrne Memorial Grant program projects funded during the state's 2000 fiscal year.

Edward Byrne Memorial Grant

Allocated Funds for 2000 State Fiscal Year By Program Type



| PROGRAM AREA | NUMBER OF PROJECTS FUNDED | FEDERAL BUDGET ALLOCATION |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force | 39 | \$3,352,355 |
| Correctional Treatment | 12 | \$1,042,940 |
| Response to Gang Activity | 4 | \$368,519 |
| Domestic/Family Violence Training Program | 12 | \$718,743 |
| Community Crime Prevention | 25 | \$913,757 |
| Criminal Justice Information System | 35 | \$1,445,205 |
| Pre-Trial Service Delivery | 22 | \$1,241,114 |
| Victim/Witness | 2 | \$769,291 |
| Special Prosecution | 6 | \$322,720 |
| Prison/Jail Industries | 3 | \$221,531 |
| TOTAL | 160 | \$10,396,175 |

*Includes use of some "old" or prior year monies.

A Comprehensive Continuum of Crime Intervention Strategies

The programs funded in Tennessee's 2000-2002 Statewide Strategy for Drug Control, Violence Prevention and Criminal Justice System Improvement work together to form a comprehensive plan to reduce the incidents of violent crimes in Tennessee, prevent and control illegal drugs, and improve the operation of the criminal justice system. First, grassroots prevention projects funded at the level of Community Crime Prevention help to ensure that children are aware of the dangers of illegal drugs and have the resources available to avoid involvement in crime, drug use and delinquent activities. Community partnerships funded through projects in this program area also help citizens to mobilize their resources to protect themselves and their communities before crime occurs in their districts. In cases where drugs and violent crimes have already occurred, projects funded in the program areas of Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces and Response to Gang Activity work to ensure the swift identification and apprehension of suspected offenders. Once offenders are apprehended, projects funded in the program areas of Special Prosecution and Pre-Trial Services ensure the expeditious and effective processing of these cases through the court system, while the needs of crime victims are served through projects funded in the program areas of Victim/Witness and Domestic Family Violence Training. Once offenders are effectively prosecuted and incarcerated, projects funded in the areas of Prison/Jail Industries and Correctional Treatment help to provide them with the skills and services they need for successful rehabilitation to occur, thus ending the cycle of recidivism and enabling them to be successfully re-integrated into the community. Finally, projects funded in the area of Criminal Justice Information Systems

enable the entire criminal justice community to share more accurate information on criminal histories in a more comprehensive and technologically efficient manner.

Collaborative Planning/Funding and Interagency Activities

Tennessee recently began implementation of its 2000-2002 Statewide Strategy for Drug Control, Violence Prevention and Criminal Justice System Improvement. This innovative plan relies on “indigenous components” within Tennessee’s criminal justice system to identify resource needs and gaps in services, identify and develop programs and project models to address identified needs, and develop effective strategies to evaluate the success of projects and program models selected for funding. Following receipt of feedback from criminal justice system components, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) utilizes the input and expertise of a statewide Executive Criminal Justice Advisory Committee. The Executive Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, composed of key individuals from a variety of local and state criminal justice agencies, reviews priorities and program models identified by the “indigenous components” within Tennessee’s criminal justice system and makes recommendations to the Office of Criminal Justice Programs regarding priorities for the funding in the upcoming fiscal year.

Interagency Cooperation and Participation

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs works closely with the Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) within the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation to access their services in collecting and compiling relevant data on the criminal justice system. The Office of

Criminal Justice Programs participates in a SAC Advisory Committee designed to ascertain which research initiatives should receive priority during each funding year.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) oversees the Criminal Justice Records Information System Task Force, a committee chaired by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) Director, and designed to address the needs of local and state law enforcement officials in implementing a reliable system of criminal justice records information. Information is shared regarding the availability, provisions, and reporting requirements of grants administered by OCJP. The committee includes sheriffs and police department technical staff in addition to staff from various state offices that contribute to any aspect of criminal justice and/or criminal history records.

Representatives from the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) participated in meetings of the Tennessee Sheriff's Association and the Police Chief's Association, which were held several times during this past fiscal year. Emphasis was placed on the grants available through the OCJP and how grant awards could be used to address community needs and gaps in services.

During the 98/99 fiscal year, The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) provided technical support to its subgrantees first through preparation and dissemination of the Tennessee Administrative Manual for Byrne Formula Grant Subrecipients. The guide was prepared to serve as a reference for the financial and programmatic requirements/responsibilities of projects funded through the Edward Byrne Memorial

Grant Program. Training on the manual was provided to subgrantees during the 1999/2000 fiscal year through three regional training sessions. Revisions to the manual were prepared and disseminated to subgrantees as dictated by need.

Collaborative Funding

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) also enjoys a unique opportunity to enhance and support the efforts of Byrne funded programs through collaborative funding with several other grants administered by OCJP. These grants include the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG), the Violence Against Women ACT (VAWA or STOP) Grant, the National Criminal History Improvement Plan (NCHIP) Grant, Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Family Violence Shelters Grant, and the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Grant.

Programs funded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant in the areas of Domestic/Family Violence Training and Victim/Witness are working collaboratively with projects funded through the VAWA Grant, the VOCA Grant, and the Family Violence Shelter Grant to ensure an effective continuum of prevention and intervention in the area of domestic violence. With combined funds of over ten million dollars, these grant programs are working together to ensure that effective domestic violence training and prevention programs are in place for law enforcement personnel, that victims receive the support services they need, that perpetrators of domestic violence are swiftly and effectively prosecuted, and that emergency residential services are available for immediate occupancy when domestic violence occurs.

Over two million dollars in RSAT funds and Edward Byrne Memorial Grant funds are being used to establish a continuum of care for substance abuse treatment that includes both assessment, outpatient care, inpatient care, and aftercare for a variety of offenders evidencing a need for this type of intervention. Byrne funds are used to purchase substance abuse prevention, outpatient and aftercare services, while RSAT funds are used to address the needs of offenders requiring long-term residential substance abuse treatment.

In the area of criminal history records improvement, the 5% set –aside requirement of the Edward Byrne Grant is being used to complement and enhance activities funded through the National Criminal History Improvement Plan (NCHIP) Grant. Projects funded through the NCHIP Grant are focusing on updating and expanding uniform crime reporting and increasing the submission of fingerprints and dispositions from agencies in the field. The 5% set-aside in the Edward Byrne Grant supports this objective through providing funding for the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), a uniform crime reporting system designed to complement criminal history records improvement projects funded through the NCHIP Grant. Also during the past year, a law was enacted in the Tennessee State Legislature that levied an additional privilege tax of \$1.00 on litigation for all criminal cases instituted in Tennessee. The funds assessed through this legislation have been appropriated to the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) for the issuance of grants to support electronic fingerprint imaging systems, including line maintenance charges. Prior to the purchase of fingerprint imaging

systems, applicant law enforcement agencies must obtain certification from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) that the proposed equipment is compatible with TBI's and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) integrated automated fingerprint identification systems.

Funds issued through the DOJ/COPS Universal Hiring Program have enabled many local law enforcement agencies to employ badly needed additional officers who are dedicated to community crime prevention activities. The State of Tennessee last year provided additional support to its communities in their ability to secure COPS grants by allocating 7.5 million dollars in State funds for a Safe Neighborhoods Grant. This grant, administered by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), provided assistance for local communities in securing COPS grants available through the COPS Universal Hiring Program, allowing the COPS program to fund seventy-five percent (75%) of the project and the State to fund ten percent (10%) of the total project amount. Therefore only fifteen percent (15%) of the matching funds required were required from the local agency. During this reporting period, Tennessee issued thirty-one grants totaling \$822,689 to local law enforcement agencies to apply to their required match for a COPS grant, with 87 officer positions being supplemented.

EVALUATION PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

Evaluation Plan and Activities

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has incorporated a multi-faceted paradigm for evaluating the success of programs funded through the Edward Byrne Memorial Grant. This paradigm includes the submission, review, and evaluation of subgrantee semi-annual and annual reports, objective financial and programmatic monitoring reviews obtained from the Office of Program Accountability Review (PAR) within the Department of Finance and Administration, and regular phone contacts and periodic site visits conducted by OCJP program managers. Many Byrne Project Directors complete or subcontract for internal, project-specific process and outcomes research measures to assess the effectiveness of their own project models. Additionally, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs received a BJA Evaluation Partnership Grant awarded to OCJP and its subcontractor, Correctional Counseling Inc. This subgrant, initiated the 1998/1999 fiscal year, is designed to provide a formal, independent impact evaluation of the effectiveness of Tennessee's Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces, the program area where over one third of Tennessee's annual Byrne Grant award is allocated on a continuing basis.

The submission of standardized semi-annual and annual reports are required of all Byrne subgrantees. These reports, devised for each program area by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), are designed to capture data necessary to ascertain the degree of progress each project has made in meeting its identified goals and objectives. Additionally, annual reports, completed by each Project Administrator, enables

subgrantees to evaluate their own success through specifically reporting on how their project has achieved its referenced goals and objectives.

Following receipt of individual project reports, OCJP Program Managers assigned to each program area review, evaluate, compile and analyze submitted information to determine the collective impact the projects funded in each program area have made in crime reduction and in meeting the program's identified goals and objectives. The OCJP shares evaluation results with the statewide Executive Criminal Justice Advisory Committee, and, based on results of analyses conducted, current crime data, and available research information, proposes adjustments to program models and funding activities.

During the 98/99 fiscal year, Tennessee adopted a statewide policy requiring each Tennessee State agency to develop a well-documented grant/contract monitoring plan for all subgrantees and/or subcontractors to ensure compliance with applicable state and/or federal monitoring requirements. During the 1999/2000 fiscal year, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) continued its Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of Program Accountability Review, within the Tennessee Department of Finance and Administration, to achieve coordinated, objective monitoring of its subgrantees and comply with this state requirement.

Under terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Office of Program Accountability Review (PAR) will provide program and fiscal monitoring and evaluation of subgrantees to determine if the subgrantee is adequately providing the services

specified in the subgrant and in accordance with established program policies and procedures. Additionally, the PAR will investigate any special concerns expressed by OCJP relative to any specific project. Accomplishing subrecipient monitoring objectives is achieved by PAR through a variety of monitoring techniques employed including physical examination of facilities and records, confirmation, vouching, tracing, inquiry, observation, reconciliation, inspection, and analytical procedures. The OCJP prepared and submitted this year, as part of the Memorandum of Understanding with PAR, a comprehensive monitoring plan that identified the frequency and degree of monitoring PAR will conduct based on the amount of funding involved with each subrecipient and other identified “risk factors”. Based on information provided, each subrecipient will be monitored by PAR every one to three years, with agencies receiving the largest amount of funds or identified as having greater risk factors being monitored most frequently.

Each program manager employed in the Office of Criminal Justice Program is responsible for oversight and management of projects administered in program areas assigned to him/her. Oversight responsibilities include reviewing subgrantee applications to ensure that measurable goals and objectives for each project are identified prior to funding and that, once funded, a realistic plan of evaluation is in place to determine the degree of success each project has made in achieving its identified goals and objectives. In addition to reviewing and utilizing information in subgrantee semi-annual and annual reports, Program Managers maintain periodic phone contact with subgrantees throughout the year providing information and technical assistance to subgrantees as needed and requested.

The State of Tennessee identified in its 2000-2002 Statewide Strategy for Drug Control, Violence Prevention and Criminal Justice System Improvement offender apprehension as its first priority in the area of law enforcement. The primary method described for the implementation of this strategy was Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces projects. The most important achievement made in 1999/2000 by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs in the area of program evaluation was the continuation of a subcontract with a private non-profit agency, Correctional Counseling Inc. funded through an Edward Byrne Evaluation Partnership Grant awarded to OCJP by BJA. This subcontract provides for a formal evaluation to measure the effectiveness and program impact of the Task Forces and establish a baseline of measurement for future evaluations in the State of Tennessee.

The evaluation of Drug Task Forces to be completed through implementation of the Edward Byrne Evaluation Partnership Grant will establish a set of measures that will become standardized over the years in measuring the effectiveness of Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces. It will be accomplished using two distinct instruments: the first one is based on a Quantified Program Assessment (BJA published document), and the other is an instrument developed by the Social Science Research Center at California State University at Fullerton. Both instruments are designed to capture both process and outcome measures in relatively quantifiable form. Both instruments will be administered to each member of each Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force in Tennessee, and a sample of Task Forces, Board members, as well as other criminal

justice systems administrators and planners who will be individually interviewed to promote ownership and investment in the evaluation and to add any other measures to the instruments that the respondents deem important. The final report will provide raw data as well as analyses of the data. Based on these analyses, pathways will be presented, indicating what alternatives Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces might pursue in order to achieve a greater outcome or more refined program process. A concomitant objective of the evaluation will be to establish a process that becomes easy to use by criminal justice personnel who may not have evaluation or a statistically technical background.

The methodology to be used in this evaluation is a modified application of the method provided in BJA's publication Developing Performing Measures for Criminal Justice Programs by Hatfield. This publication describes a method of measuring program performance through the use of gradations of program accomplishment. In the Tennessee application of this method, otherwise known as the Quantified Program Assessment (QPA), various concrete measures of program performance will be selected for examination and various groups of people will be asked to judge the relative accomplishment of these measures on the following scale:

1. Much less than the expected level of accomplishment
2. Somewhat less than the expected level of accomplishment
3. Expected level of accomplishment
4. Somewhat more than the expected level of accomplishment
5. Much more than the expected level of accomplishment

Following the QPA method, these scores for each measure will be calculated to produce a number of numerical values that can be statistically manipulated to produce a quantified value for each measure, group of measures, or for each Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force. While these first-year scores will become useful for the purposes of comparisons, they will also establish a baseline against which future years' evaluations can be compared.

The QPA method also will allow for consideration of the importance of one measure over another. This form of "weighting" places statistical emphasis on some measures deemed of greater value than others. This will be determined on the basis of the same surveys and interviews used to arrive at numerical scores. Those who are involved in the Task Forces, from criminal justice systems planning and administration through those whose direct efforts are in law enforcement, will be surveyed and interviewed for their perceptions of goal attainment, and will also be asked to prioritize the importance of each measure. This program-based form of survey will keep the evaluation grounded in reality and also help determine the relative importance of each performance measure.

Every member of each Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force in Tennessee will be surveyed as part of this research initiative and asked to express their views regarding the accomplishment of their and others' Task Forces, based on scoring of the performance measures. In order to balance their perceptions, other criminal justice systems representatives from each Task Force area, who are not members of the Task Forces, will also be surveyed on their views. In addition, a sample of Task Forces will be directly

interviewed in order to either compare, validate, or add to the perceptions of those who fill out surveys with no interview. This sample of Task Forces will be geographically and functionally selected so as to arrive at a representative sample.

The following list of performance measures, extracted from the Tennessee's first priority area of offender apprehension, has been used as the basis of this evaluation:

1. The degree to which cooperation and collaboration occur within each Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force
2. The degree to which cooperation and collaboration occur between the Task Force and local agencies, state agencies, and federal agencies
3. Number of agencies participating in the Task Force
4. Number of enforcement staff assigned to the Task Force
5. Information exchange within the Task Force member agencies
6. Number of case investigations initiated in the past year
7. Number of cases dropped in the past year
8. Number of convictions in the past year
9. Number and types of operations
10. Number of arrests and types of offenses
11. Amounts and types of drugs seized
12. Amount of fines and donations ordered
13. Excess military equipment acquired
14. Dollar amount of excess military equipment acquired

15. Equipment exchanged among Task Force member agencies

After each item is weighted, statistical calculations will be performed (consistent with calculations described in the aforementioned publication by Hatfield) to produce a variety of scores. These scores will be compared with other scores provided by members within the Task Force in order to determine reliability and will also be compared to scores calculated by other Tennessee State Task Force members for the sake of comparison. Both sets of scores will also be compared to those scores assigned by other criminal justice systems professionals who are not members of the Task Forces. These multiple comparisons will be analyzed and summarized in the final report to present a valid picture of Tennessee Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces.

In addition to administering the QPA instrument, the evaluation team will also test another instrument developed by the Social Science Research Center at the University of California at Fullerton. This self-assessment asks a series of questions about six elements of collaborative capacity to determine the extent of which the drug control efforts of multiple agencies have been integrated and coordinated. The CSU instrument is an opinion survey that seeks respondents' agreement or disagreement with numerous statements.

During the 1998/1999 fiscal year, twenty-three site visits to the Tennessee Task Forces were completed and a survey was developed to obtain information regarding education requirements for agents, length of time agents are undercover, man hours per Task Force,

record keeping systems strengths and limitations, equipment strengths and limitations, agency cooperation and benefits or problems with current Drug Task Force structures. Additionally, data was being gathered regarding the number of seizures, forfeitures and arrests resulting from Task Force operations.

Currently, the results of surveys from the twenty-three (23) task forces are being tabulated and analyzed. Statistics are also being compiled and analyzed regarding the number of seizures, arrests, and forfeitures resulting from the twenty-three (23) Task Force initiatives. Additionally, during the 1999/2000 fiscal year, several focus groups were planned and conducted with District Attorney Generals to obtain their perception of all facets of Task Force Operations including strengths, weaknesses, and any modifications or improvements in processes that may need to be implemented.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) is eagerly awaiting a formal report of results of this multi-faceted evaluation. The final report should be available by January 2001.

The following spreadsheet represents a condensed overview of funded program areas/projects with their intended goals and outcomes in addition to a methodology regarding evaluation processes.

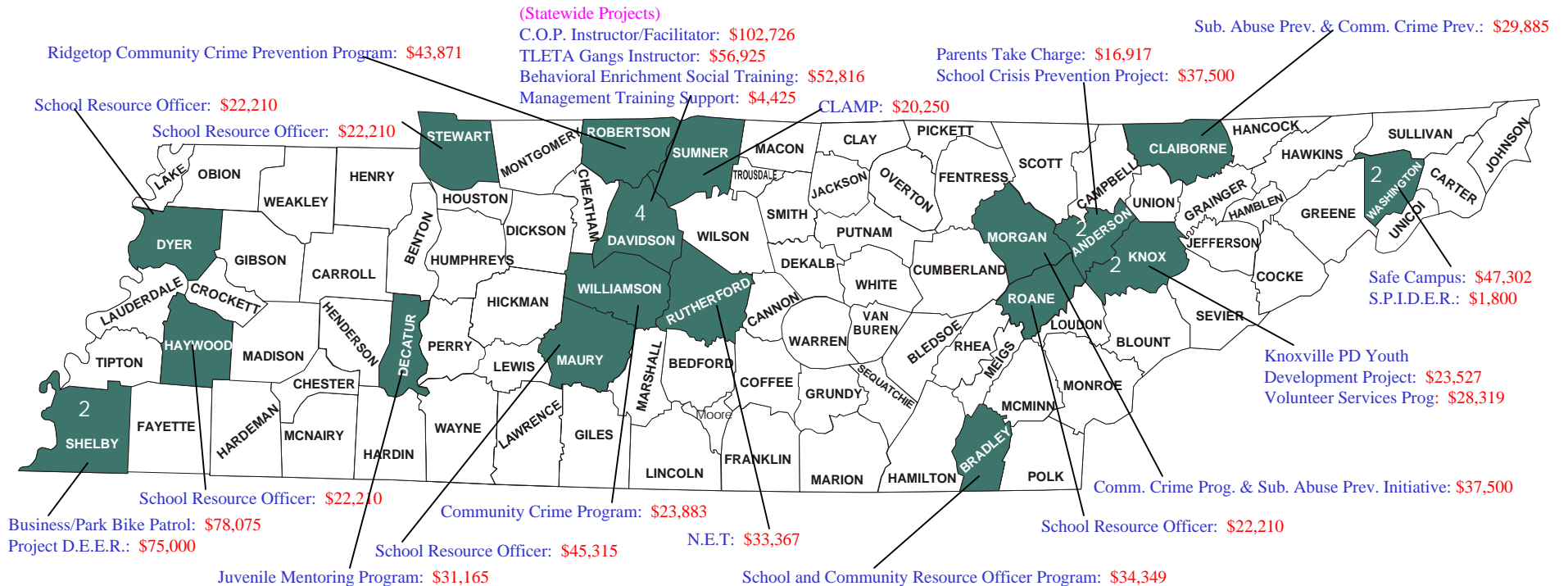
Byrne Program Summary/Outcome Grid

| <i>Program Title</i> | <i># of Projects</i> | <i>Purpose Area</i> | <i>Evaluators</i> | <i>Intended Outcomes/ Goals</i> | <i>Evaluation Methodology</i> |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Multi-Jurisdictional Drug & Violent Crime Task Forces | 39 | 2 | OCJP, Correction Counseling, Inc. Reports, Self Evaluation | Minimize violent crime and the use, production, and transportation of illegal drugs via integration of federal, state, and local drug enforcement agencies and prosecutors. | Semi-Annual Reports, Surveys, On- site monitoring, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, CCI Impact Evaluation |
| Correctional Treatment | 12 | 11 | OCJP, Self Evaluation | Reduce recidivism by treating adult and juvenile substance abusers | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Response to Gang Activity | 4 | 24 | OCJP | Facilitate law enforcement & prevention programs that relate to gangs or youth at risk of gang involvement. Reduce the incidences of arson, via prevention & control techniques.. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Domestic/Family Violence Training Programs | 12 | 18 | OCJP | Educate community in the area of domestic & family violence, including abuse of children & the elderly. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Community Crime Prevention | 25 | 4 | OCJP | Reduce the incidence of crime in the community by supplementing the local law enforcement with additional officers and equipment. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Criminal Justice Information System | 35 | 15B | OCJP, TBI, Self Evaluation | Equip, collect, & submit, criminal history records to the TBI on a timely and accurate basis. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, TBI Statistics, On-site monitoring |
| Pre-Trial Service Delivery | 22 | 10 | OCJP | Expediting violent crime & drug cases by the use of attorneys specifically assigned to screen and prioritize adjudication efforts. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Victim/Witness | 2 | 14 | OCJP | Provide support and assistance to witnesses and jurors experiencing stress or needing protection or assurance. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Special Prosecution | 6 | 10 | OCJP | Expedite adjudication of violent crime and drug cases by facilitating the assignment of specialized prosecutors. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports, On-site monitoring |
| Prison/Jail Industries | 3 | 12 | OCJP | Provide prison industry projects for the purpose of assisting the inmates to develop skills they can use upon release, which increases their potential to remain crime free. | Semi-Annual Reports, Annual Self Evaluation Reports |
| Total | 160 | | | | |

III

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS, PERFORMANCE MEASURES, EVALUATION METHODS AND EVALUATION RESULTS

Community Crime Prevention Program



Project Locations

Numbers Indicate Multiple Projects

Community Crime Prevention Program

In order to effectively address the issue of drug abuse, gang-related crimes, acts of violence, or other illegal behaviors, effective intervention must occur at a very young age. As stated in the National Drug Control Strategy, researchers have identified important factors that place youth at risk of drug abuse and engagement in other acts of anti-social behavior. Risk factors include a chaotic home environment, ineffective parenting, anti-social behaviors, drug-using peers, general approval of drug use, and the misperception that the overwhelming majority of one's peers are substance abusers. Protective factors include parental involvement, success in school, strong bonds with family, school, and religious organization, knowledge of dangers posed by drug use and illegal behaviors, and the recognition by young people that substance abuse is not "the norm" but is a deviation from acceptable behavior.

In an effort to stop the cycle of drug use and other criminal behaviors **before** the need for apprehension and prosecution become evident, Tennessee has focused many of its community crime prevention efforts this year on projects that target and address the needs of "at risk" youth. This population includes both children as young as five (5) years of age and older children who are attending junior and senior high schools.

One of the most promising projects funded this year was a initiative undertaken by the Morgan County Board of Education entitled "Project ABC". This project targets for

intervention children in grades K-8 who display the following risk factors: economic deprivation, exhibition of serious and or early and persistent anti-social behaviors, academic failure beginning in the early pubescent developmental period, lowered identification to the role of student, presence and or favorable attitudes regarding alcohol and drugs within the family, and children with a family member who has been incarcerated. Referrals come to the program as a result of teacher/counselor identification, as follow-up to a crisis situation within the school setting, or as a result of requests from family members for assistance. The project utilizes the “Strengthening Families Program” curriculum and has three basic components: parent skills development, child skills training and counseling, and opportunity for family skills building through experiential learning. A file is maintained on each child enrolled in the project. The success of the project is measured through observed and documented changes in psychosocial functioning, improvement in academic functioning, and improvement in family functioning as measured by increased structure, clarity of roles and norms, decreased incidents of family conflict, decreased overall family stress level, and appropriate limit setting. To date, over sixty-five (65) children have been served through project ABC with significant positive changes in classroom behavior and family functioning noted.

Another early intervention effort, the Behavioral Enrichment Social Training (BEST) project, was implemented this year through a subgrant issued to the Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities. This project utilized a subcontract with a regional community mental health center to target children ages four (4) to five (5) years

of age who are at high risk of developing emotional and behavioral problems that will bring them into conflict with the criminal justice system as they become older. Project BEST uses an empirically tested prevention curriculum known as the Second Step Violence Prevention Program that focuses on empathy training, anger management, and impulse control. A second component to the program, the Reaching Educators, Children, and Parents (RECAP) curriculum, focuses on helping teachers and parents to better understand children's behaviors from a developmental framework. This portion of the curriculum focuses on effective strategies for communicating with children and managing misbehaviors, enhancing parenting skills, prosocial modeling, and prosocial problem solving. Additionally, teachers are instructed in behavior management, skills to enhance self-esteem, and implementation of the therapeutic milieu. Over forty (40) children have received services through the BEST project this year. The Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, in conjunction with the regional community mental health agency, is in the process of evaluating the effectiveness of the project based on observed and documented changes in children's behavior relative to a control group that did not receive the BEST curriculum.



The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) also issued this year a grant to the Claiborne County Sheriff's Office for a project designed to educate young children about

personal safety and the dangers of drug use, and which also works with adolescents to deter the proliferation of illegal drugs in the public school system. This innovative project makes use of a K-9 specially trained to detect the presence of illegal drugs. The dog, named Tasha (acronym for **T**each **A**ll **S**tudents **H**ealthy **A**ttitudes) is used to teach children in the Head Start program and grades K-3, fundamental safety issues like stranger safety, gun safety, when to call 911, and why and how to avoid illegal drugs. Additionally, in the high school setting, Tasha is used to detect the presence of illegal drugs in the school setting. Officers take a proactive approach by allowing students to anonymously place any illegal drugs in an “amnesty box” prior to Tasha’s visit. Tasha is then used to detect the presence of any remaining illegal substances in the school. Officers working with Tasha also use these visits as an opportunity to interact with students and provide further education on the dangers and risks of using illegal drugs. To date, the project has provided services to over eight thousand (8,000) children in the elementary and high school grades in addition to sponsoring over twenty (20) community meetings to educate youth and adults on safety issues and drug abuse. Tasha was honored this year by being featured in a fall 1999 edition of the nationally televised series “Animal Planet”.



The Office of Criminal Justice Programs continued funds this year for the S.P.I.D.E.R. Project (Students and Police on the Internet for Drug Education and Resistance) an

initiative designed to address youth violence, drug abuse, delinquency, and the use of gateway substances such as cigarettes and alcohol through capitalizing on the increasing exposure of school children to computer technology. Through this project and its attendant outreach activities students receive positive influence from police officers and are afforded the opportunity to share their thoughts, concerns, and opinions about drugs and the drug culture. The S.P.I.D.E.R. web page welcomes contact with students via e-mail. Police Community Relations Officers, DARE, and School Resource Officers respond to children's comments and queries. This year, the web site received over fifteen thousand (15,000) site visits as well as more than six hundred fifty (650) contacts from children via e-mail. A videotape loaner library on drug education and resistance continued to be maintained for the use of parents, teachers, and students. An essay contest was sponsored for the elementary school grade children wherein the children were asked to respond to the question "if you had the power, what would you do to stop drugs and gangs in school?" Winners were chosen from each grade level and donated prizes were awarded for the best entries. This project has been so successful that it was featured last year at the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Conference as an exemplary project and has since been placed on the CALEA web site in the Clients Only section.

Five (5) additional youth diversion projects funded this year include the Anderson County School System Crisis/Crime Prevention Project, the Knoxville Police Youth Project, the Parents Take Charge Project, the Decatur County Mentoring Project, and the City of Nolensville Community Crime Prevention Project.

The Anderson County School System Crisis/Crime Prevention Project funds a crisis counselor who is shared by 2 high schools in Anderson County. The counselor is responsible for conducting assessments, making service referrals, clinical consultation with at-risk students, conducting consultations with families and school staff, conducting workshops for students, families and staff and performing other crisis prevention, intervention and post intervention services.

The Knoxville Police Youth Project consists of three components designed to address the needs of at-risk students in twelve Knox County high schools. The first component consists of youth councils appointed from each school to discuss the consequences of negative actions and how these consequences play a major role in student dealings with authority and police. The second component consists of youth advisory boards whose function includes the administration of several mini-grants distributed to youth service organizations, and the third component consists of a youth academy, a summer program designed to teach community building, creating win-win situations, addressing current teen issues, and establishing realistic goal setting.

A continuation subgrant issued for the Parents Take Charge Project, involved the use of trained facilitators who instructed parents using the “Parent to Parent” model, a video-based parent education program developed by the National Parents’ Resource Institute for Drug Education Inc. (PRIDE). The program provided parents the skills, knowledge, attitudes and abilities necessary to get their own children into adulthood without alcohol,

tobacco and drug use, and empowered them to become more proactive in their parenting responsibilities. Over one hundred seventy-five (175) parents have been trained this year through the Parents Take Charge Project.

A new subgrant awarded this year to the Decatur County Government enabled this small rural community to initiate the Decatur County Mentoring Program. This project targeted children ages eight (8) to seventeen (17) years of age who have experienced their first contact with the juvenile court. These children were paired with specially trained “mentors”, many of whom are former educators, who worked with the children a minimum of one (1) hour per week to support youth in the development of positive, pro-social behaviors. Over twenty (20) children received services through the Decatur County Mentoring Project this year, with improvement in behaviors and a decrease in status and felony offenses noted.

A continuation grant issued to the City of Nolensville funded a project to train and educate both parents and children on drug usage and drug abuse. During the past fiscal year, this project conducted monthly training meetings for members of the Mayor’s Drug Task Force, conducted a Drug and Alcohol Awareness and Education Fair in conjunction with the local school, conducted a “Boundaries” class for a duration of approximately twelve (12) weeks, and continued the provision of resource materials to the public library on drug use and abuse issues.

Through implementation of Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities funds Tennessee established a School Safety Center in 1995. The School Safety Center continues to provide training and technical assistance to local schools and communities in the areas of violence prevention and school safety. It works in partnership with the Tennessee Legal Community Foundation of the Tennessee Bar Association to provide conflict resolution and classroom management training to teams of elementary and middle school teachers and administrators. Over one thousand (1,000) educators and law enforcement personnel have been trained to date using this model. Additionally, School Safety Centers worked with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) to conduct background checks on educators and school employees, with the Bomb and Arson Section of the Fire Marshal's Office in managing bomb threats, and with the Tennessee Department of Safety in supporting eighty-seven (87) local D.A.R.E. projects. Also funded were partnerships between schools, juvenile courts, and community agencies in nine communities to serve zero tolerance violators.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), in support of the Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities Initiative, issued subgrants this year to seven (7) agencies to fund eight (8) additional school resource officer positions. School Resource Officers generally rotated their time and responsibility among a variety of elementary, middle, junior high, and high schools in the school district for which they are employed. In addition to creating a law enforcement presence within the schools, the School Resource Officers:

- Monitor a majority of school athletic and program functions

- Assist in the identification of at-risk students and make appropriate service referral recommendations
- Provide mentoring services for at-risk students who otherwise have few appropriate role models
- Meet with parents and school officials to discuss issues of common concern
- Provide classroom instruction on alcohol/drug resistance and driver safety issues
- Assist staff in handling potentially volatile confrontations with students.



School resource officers funded through the Edward Byrne grant this year have conducted a total of over two hundred (200) community meetings, facilitated or conducted presentations in over three hundred fifty (350) classrooms, conducted over one hundred fifty (150) meetings with parents, and surveyed over three hundred (300) residents.

Funds issued through the DOJ/COPS Universal Hiring Program have enabled many local law enforcement agencies to employ badly needed additional officers who are dedicated to community crime prevention activities. The State of Tennessee last year provided additional support to its communities in their ability to secure COPS grants by allocating 7.5 million dollars in State funds for a Safe Neighborhoods Grant. This grant, administered by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), provided assistance for local communities in securing COPS grants available through the COPS Universal Hiring Program, allowing the COPS program to fund seventy-five percent (75%) of the project and the State to fund ten percent (10%) of the total project amount. Therefore only fifteen percent (15%) of the matching funds required were required from the local agency. During this reporting period, Tennessee issued thirty-one grants totaling \$822,689 to local law enforcement agencies to apply to their required match for a COPS grant, with 87 officer positions being supplemented.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) provided continuation funds this fiscal year for three Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA) instructors to provide seminars of eight to thirty-two hours in length to various law enforcement officers on community crime prevention initiatives, domestic violence and gang resistance and intervention strategies. Community oriented prevention instruction focused on how to obtain resources to activate community-crime prevention programs and how to explain the various types of programs and establish program demonstrations. Regional seminars were provided on criminal investigations, narcotics, and interrogation techniques so that officers could solve problems in their own jurisdictions.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) issued a continuation grant to the City of Bartlett near Memphis, Tennessee to provide increased police security in high risk areas of the city and in shopping areas during seasons that are at high risk for incidents of assault, rape, burglary and vandalism to occur. There was a significant reduction in crime in targeted areas where increased patrol was provided.

Additional projects funded to empower communities to take responsibility for ensuring their safety and preventing crime include the Neighborhood Education and Training project in Rutherford County, the Memphis Area Neighborhood Watch project (DEERS), and the Citizens Learning Anti-Crime Methods of Prevention (CLAMP) project funded in Sumner County.

The Neighborhood Education and Training (NET) project involved utilization of a dedicated officer whose function was to coordinate and develop community crime prevention initiatives implemented within the Sumner County Sheriff's Office. These projects include the DARE program, the Neighborhood Watch program, and the Citizens Police Academy. Through improvements made in this coordinated approach, over 20 community meetings on crime prevention were held this year, seven neighborhood watch groups were formed, training and education was provided to students in over thirty (30) classrooms, and over five (5) meetings were held with community residents.

Similarly, a grant issued to the Knox County Sheriff's Office funded a volunteer services coordinator to conduct screenings of potential volunteers and volunteer applicant interviews, assist in training volunteers for various assignments, and coordinate all volunteer activities within the Sheriff's Office. Several volunteers have been recruited, screened and trained to perform functions in the Family Crisis Unit, the Detective Division, and the Special Services Division of the Knox County Sheriff's Office since initiation of this subaward.

The Memphis Area Neighborhood Watch project uses the acronym DEERS to signify its five main areas of emphasis:

- **D**eterring theft by installation of deadbolt locks and security equipment
- **E**ncouraging youth involvement by providing bicycle and safety patrols
- **E**ducating senior citizens in fraud/scam techniques and home safety
- **R**epairing broken window theory by offering community-wide "clean-ups"
- **S**hining the spotlight on criminals with the installation of leased lighting through collaborative efforts with Memphis Light, Gas, & Water Departments

The Shelby County Government contracts with the Memphis Area Neighborhood Watch Group to review and issue grants that are available through the DEERS project. Grants may be given to neighborhood watch groups to purchase installation of locks or other security equipment, to fund campaign projects to increase resident participation in neighborhood watch groups or associations, fund youth bicycle or other safety education projects, fund senior citizen safety education projects, purchase equipment or supplies for

youth activities, fund drug free prevention partnerships, fund school and parent or neighborhood patrols, or to fund neighborhood “clean-up” campaigns. A maximum amount of \$5,000 in state funds are issued to individual entities through provisions of this project with a 50% match required. Each entity receiving a grant award may satisfy the match requirement by working 1500 “neighbor labor” hours. Over (8) grants were issued through the DEERS project this year for various community crime prevention initiatives.

The final grant issued by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) this year in the area of community crime prevention was to the City of Ridgetop for the Ridgetop Community Crime Prevention Initiative.



This project added a patrol supervisor to community policing and provided equipment for the officer and his vehicle. The function of the officer assigned to this duty was to implement and increase neighborhood watch programs and supervise patrolmen and report to the police chief on their activities. Approximately five (5) new neighborhood watch groups have been formed since implementation of this grant this fiscal year.

Goals, Objectives, and Activities

Tennessee established as its primary goal for the community crime prevention program the improvement of the quality of life in neighborhoods by assisting citizens in organizing their neighborhoods to prevent and control crime.

Objectives supporting this goal include increased community access to police, increased crime suppression efforts in targeted communities to weed out violent crimes, increasing community awareness and access to educational, social, and crime prevention programs, and increasing awareness of juvenile issues in relation to community based activities.

Activities consistent with this goal and objectives were to enlist the aid of residents in reporting suspected illegal activities, provide non-routine random patrols, provide community police substations where indicated, conduct community organizational activities, conduct surveys of targeted areas, and increase financial and administrative support for School Resource Officers.

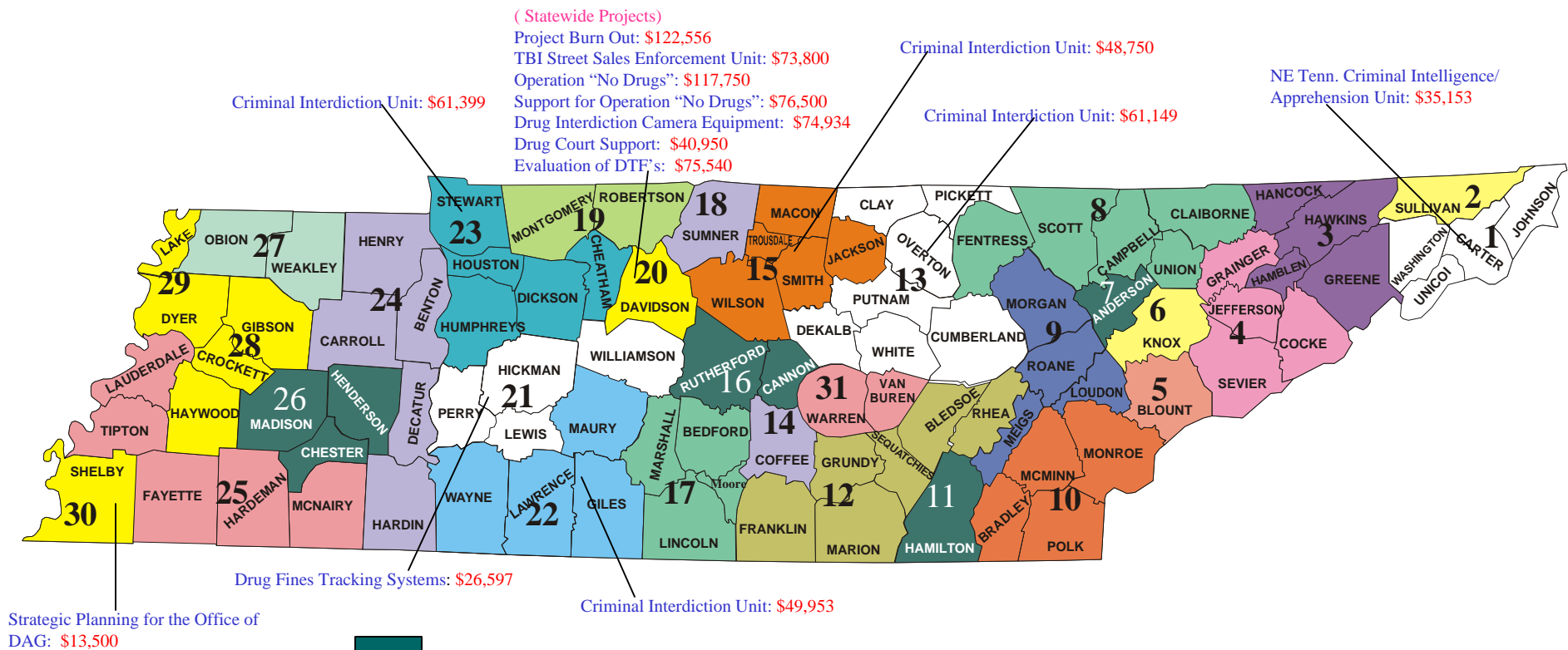
Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above objectives included increasing by 25% the number of officers assigned to low-income, densely populated housing projects, a 20% decrease in crime for areas receiving additional police assistance, an increase in the arrest and prosecution of suspected criminals, and an increase in the number of School Resource Officers in targeted school districts.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

With the diversity of projects funded in the area of community crime prevention this year, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) met or approximated its goals in this program area, with most grants issued in the areas of early intervention and youth violence prevention. Available data does indicate a decrease of around 17% in assaults and vandalism occurring on school property where school resource officers were located, and the community in which additional patrol officers were targeted evidenced a similar decline in crime of around 23%. The long-term impact of youth diversion and prevention projects remains to be determined. Additional short-term outcome research data is being generated by individual projects implementing these grants.

Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force Program



(4) Judicial Districts without Task Forces

OCJP funds 25 Judicial District Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces and 14 additional projects which support the state's drug and violent crime efforts.

* Judicial Districts 28, 29 & 30 have combined to create 1 Multi-Jurisdictional Drug & Violent Crime Task Force.

Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Force Program

The possession, manufacture, and sale of illegal drugs continue to exert a negative impact on Tennessee's rural, suburban and urban communities. The drug problem has enhanced violent crime activity, contributed to an increase in homicides, assaults, and rapes, and has often involved the use of firearms in violent confrontations as drug traffickers conduct their illegal activities.



Tennessee has launched an extensive campaign to reduce the infiltration of illegal drugs in the state through the establishment of 25 Multi-Jurisdictional Judicial District Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces that are specifically designed to locate and eradicate illegal drugs and prosecute those involved in the possession, manufacture, distribution, or sale of illegal substances. Additionally, OCJP funded 7 projects to enhance the operation of existing Multi-Jurisdictional Judicial District Task Force initiatives, 3 projects to address statewide highway interdiction or undercover drug operations, one project to support a special arson investigation unit, one project to fund a criminal investigator dedicated to the investigation and prosecution of drug offenders, and an additional grant

to provide software to link statewide criminal intelligence information. A final subgrant, issued to the Tennessee Department of Safety, enabled the department to purchase in-car video cameras that support the Criminal Interdiction Units that patrol the state's highways and interstates.

Over three million dollars from Tennessee's Edward Byrne grant allocation funds an extensive Multi-Jurisdictional Task Force initiative with supporting projects that enables all but 4 judicial districts within the state to have specially trained Multi-Jurisdictional units devoted to this cause.

The majority of the funds are appropriated to cover the operational expenses of Task Forces, with additional funds being allocated for confidential funds or "buy money", specialized training, and specialized equipment needs. Like funds allocated to the Victim/Witness Program, Multi-Jurisdictional Judicial Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces are funded on an ongoing basis and are not time-limited. This ability to renew these grants on an ongoing basis is critical to providing the financial support necessary for these specially designed forces to continue implementation of these vital activities.



The Drug Task Forces funded through Tennessee's Byrne Grant program have sought to halt the problem of illegal drugs by focusing on their source, identifying the manufacturers of methamphetamine, dismantling their laboratories and prosecuting these offenders in federal court. Additionally, marijuana plants are being identified and eradicated at a high rate in Tennessee. The Task Forces also attack the drug problem through highway interdiction. In addition to interdiction projects supporting the Judicial District Task Forces one of the State-directed Task Force projects concentrates on the many interstates which bisect Tennessee. Judicial District Task Forces work both the interstates and secondary highways. The interdiction aspect of the Task Forces disrupts the flow of illegal drugs and enables the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces to develop leads to mid and upper level dealers who are responsible for major drug distribution rings within the state.

The vast majority of Tennessee's Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces conducted Multi-Jurisdictional Advisory Board meetings on a quarterly basis this year, with some boards meeting on a more frequent basis. Nearly all Task Forces surveyed to date report crack cocaine and methamphetamine as the top drugs of choice in their areas.

In addition to the Drug Task Force initiative, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) continued funds this year to the Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance for the Special Operations Response Team Project (S.O.R.T.) The S.O.R.T., composed of eight (8) specialized investigators and one accelerant sniffing canine, has responded to twenty-two (22) incidents of suspected arson since the project's inception

including eleven (11) murders with more than twenty (20) million dollars in property damage. Of the cases investigated, six (6) cases involving eleven (11) murders were cleared with arrests, including one (1) conviction. Four (4) fires were determined to be accidental, and twelve (12) cases remained under investigation at the close of the State's fiscal year. During this reporting period, the Arson and Bomb Section's S.O.R.T. responded to more than 500 crime scenes in Tennessee. A key component in this project is the continued utilization of a Special Response Vehicle (SRV) that serves as a state-of-the-art mobile communications center. The SRV transports necessary equipment and supplies for processing suspected crime scenes and conducting follow-up investigations.

As stated in last year's report, a major accomplishment in the program area of offender apprehension was the initiation in 1999 of a formal evaluation to measure the effectiveness of the Multi-Jurisdictional Judicial District Task Forces and establish a baseline of measurement for future evaluations in the State of Tennessee. This evaluation, made possible by a separate grant award issued through the Byrne Evaluation Partnership Program to OCJP, is designed to establish a baseline of measurement for future evaluations and distinguish between projects that attain a high degree of success and those that attain a lesser degree of success. The evaluation will also determine the extent to which the drug control efforts of multiple agencies have been integrated and coordinated. This evaluation will be completed in October 2000.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its goal in the program area of Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces to enhance, through jointly controlled operations, the ability of federal, state, and local criminal justice agencies to remove specifically targeted mid and upper level narcotics trafficking conspiracies and offenders through investigation, arrest, prosecution, and conviction.

Objectives supporting this goal include the reduction of factional and duplicative investigations and prosecutions in drug related offenses, an increase in investigation, prosecution, and conviction of major narcotics offenders, the identification of major drug sources and trends, an increase in drug arrests and seizures, and participation of Judicial District Task Forces in the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS).

Activities consistent with this goal and objective include the continuance of existing Judicial District Drug Task Force operations, working as one agency within the individual district to develop and implement a strategy to set up an intelligence system that would infiltrate illegal drug trafficking offenders and organizations, the identification of major drug sources and trends, the proactive arrest of offenders in a timely manner, the seizure of assets involved in drug trafficking, and obtaining TIBRS software and training from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI).

Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goal and objectives include:

- The number of agencies participating in Task Force operations
- The number of enforcement staff assigned
- The cooperation and information exchange between law enforcement agencies
- The number of case investigations initiated
- The number of cases dropped
- The number of convictions
- The number of arrests and type of offense
- The amount of fine and donations ordered
- The verification of routine reporting

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The Multi-Jurisdictional Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces have been successful in achieving their designated goals and objectives. Based on information received from Task Force Semi-Annual Reports, a combination of interdiction efforts undertaken by Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP), the following seizures occurred this year:

- 13,943 grams of powder cocaine

- 3,777 grams of rock cocaine
- 3,432 grams of methamphetamine
- 4,056 pounds of processed marijuana
- 2,595 grams of other illegal substances, plus the
- Destruction of 8,501 marijuana plants

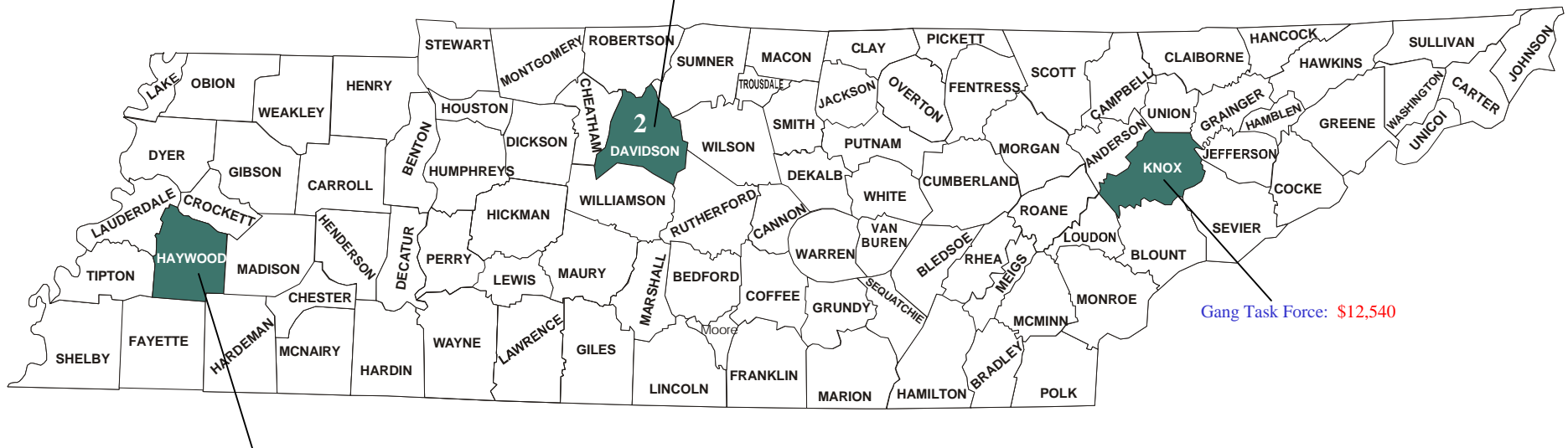
A combined total of \$2,921,804 in program income was generated from asset forfeitures and seizures, and 1,226 convictions on drug offenses resulted from Task Force initiatives.

Response to Gang Activity Program

(Statewide Projects)

Crime Bill-Gang Initiative: \$262,350

Crime Bill-Support for GREAT: \$58,777



Gang Intervention and Awareness Project: \$34,852

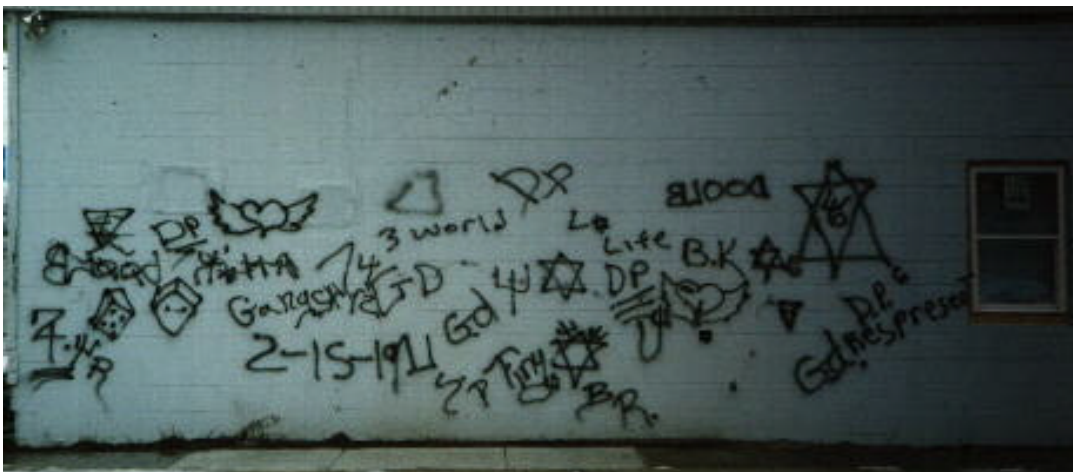
Gang Task Force: \$12,540



Project Locations

Response to Gang Activity Program

Tennessee, like other states, continues to experience an increase in gangs and gang-related crimes throughout the state. The nature and extent of criminal street gangs in Tennessee, as defined in the Tennessee Code Annotated: Title 40 Chapter 35, was assessed by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) in 1998 through a survey funded by a previous Edward Byrne Memorial Grant. The survey, responded to by three-hundred four (304) Tennessee law enforcement agencies, indicated that approximately one third of respondents had identified street gangs in their communities. Of the agencies reporting the presence of street gangs, there was also reported an increase in gang-related crime within the past few years, ranging from vandalism to car jacking. Survey results indicated that the top five gang-related crimes in order of frequency were vandalism, narcotic violations, assault, burglary, and weapons violations. Statewide, Tennessee's gangs reportedly number in the hundreds with gang membership in the thousands throughout the state.





Tennessee continued to take a proactive approach in dealing with the problem of gang-related activity in the state's 99/00 fiscal year through implementation of four (4) specialized subgrants.

A continuation grant issued to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) provided staff to facilitate better communication between local law enforcement agencies and TBI for the sharing of information regarding gangs and gang-related crimes. Working with the Regional Organized Crime Information Center (ROCIC), a viable gang database has been now been established. Staff employed by TBI through the Edward Byrne Grant have conducted statewide meetings to encourage data entry in the new system. A total of forty-five (45) meetings with one thousand forty-nine (1,049) attendees were held to encourage participation.

A subgrant issued to the City of Knoxville, Gang Task Force (GTF) supported staff who engaged in anti-gang intervention activities with over one thousand (1,200) students identified as being at high risk for involvement in gang activity.

The Office of Criminal Justice Program (OCJP) also issued a continuation subgrant to the Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) for ongoing training to be provided to officers already certified as trainers for the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program. This training enabled the officers to maintain their certifications and continue their outreach activities in local community's classrooms.

A subgrant issued to Haywood County government funded two additional police officers to patrol areas of the city where gang activity was known to be prevalent. These officers were also responsible for the specialized investigation of any gang-related crimes, resulting in an increase in prosecution and conviction of gang members engaged in illegal behaviors.

A complementary grant, issued in the program area of Community Crime Prevention, enabled the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA) to continue the services of a specialized instructor to teach established and new law enforcement officers criminal investigation of gang-related crimes, narcotics interdiction, and successful interrogation techniques.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its primary goal in this program area the education of young children on the dangers of gang activities and associations, the enhancement of self-concept and decision-making skills in young children, and the provision of positive

alternative activities in which children may engage. An objective supporting this alternative was to develop and/or implement a statewide gang prevention initiative for presentation to young children. Activities consistent with this goal and objective included securing materials on the G.R.E.A.T. program, reviewing the program model, implementing regional prevention initiatives, and replicating successful models.

Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included assessing the numbers of agencies participating in the prevention/education program, assessing the numbers of children educated in gang prevention strategies, and assessing the number of children known to have received gang resistance training but were subsequently known to have become involved with gang activity.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results:

The goals and objectives identified in this program area were not only met, but were exceeded this fiscal year with over one thousand (1,000) students being provided anti-gang presentations, and the continued implementation and expansion of the G.R.E.A.T. model across the state. Additionally, specialized gang intervention training was provided to law enforcement personnel. Data is not yet available regarding the number of children exposed to anti-gang intervention techniques but who subsequently became involved in gang activities.

Pre-Trial Service Delivery Program

(Statewide Projects)

VORP Start-Up Project: \$130,822

Court Security Seminars: \$11,250

Judicial ADR Training: \$14,582

Family Courts Feasibility Study: \$15,000

VORP Board and Volunteer Training: \$9,593

State Court Interpreters Program: \$50,000

Benchbook Updates: \$29,250

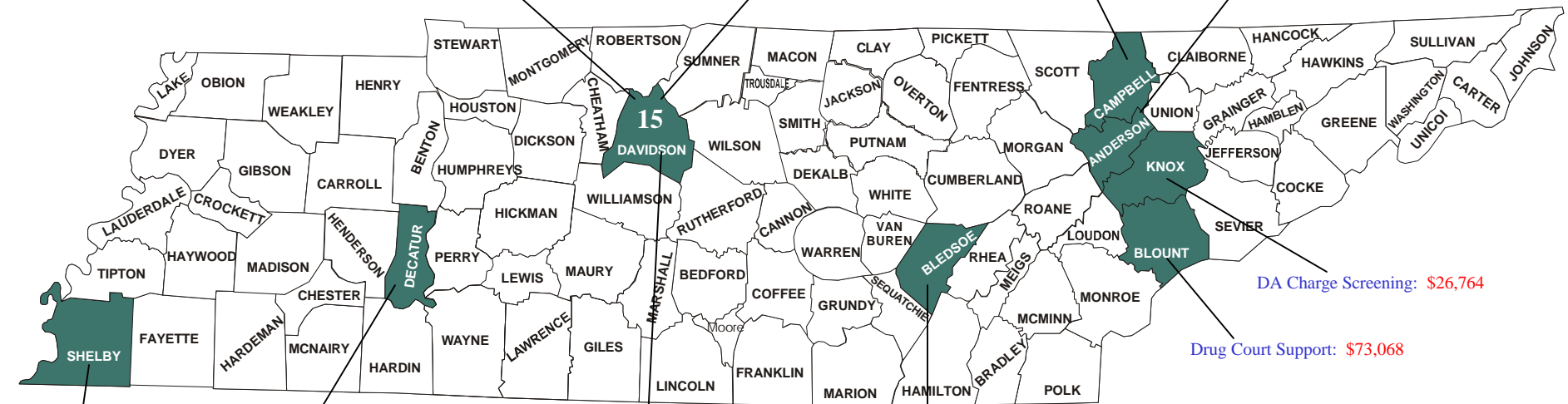
Statistical Enhancement: \$33,043

Court Security Equipment: \$50,000

Sentencing Advocate Demon. Proj.: \$65,685

Special Drug Defender: \$41,140

Family Violence Intervention Project: \$48,875



Program Locations

Numbers Indicate Multiple Projects

Pre-Trial Service Delivery Program

With the increase in arrests and convictions resulting from enhanced efforts in the areas of law enforcement, apprehension, and special prosecution, court systems have become overloaded with the large volume of cases. Projects have been needed to divert less serious offenders into appropriate resources prior to trial, new types of diversion programs for offenders convicted of less serious offenses have become necessary, and the need for specialized training to acquaint judges and staff with alternative sentencing strategies has become evident. Also, in an effort to explore alternatives for more efficient and effective case disposition, specialized studies have been needed to examine integrated criminal justice service systems in use by other states, and determine the feasibility of piloting similar projects in Tennessee.

Another problem confronting the criminal justice system is the population of non-English speaking immigrants who have come into conflict with the law. In order to ensure that the rights of these persons are protected, the need for foreign language interpreters who are sensitive to the needs of a culturally diverse population has become apparent.

Also during the past year a study completed by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) focused attention on the fact that many of Tennessee's courtrooms, from local chancery, circuit and criminal courts to the State's Supreme Court, lack adequate security to ensure the safety of judges, attorneys, and individuals involved in litigation.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), in response to the diversity of these needs, initiated during the past fiscal year a multi-faceted approach to pre-trial service intervention that included the following components:

- Enhancement of the role and work capacity of the Office of the Public Defender in two of Tennessee’s judicial districts
- The addition of “charge screen” projects designed to channel citizen complaints into appropriate resources for resolution without full court hearing processes
- Financial support for specialized Drug Courts designed to offer treatment and intervention services to non-violent felony and/or misdemeanor offenders
- Funds for the initiation of new Victim Offender Reconciliation Projects (VORPS) to divert less serious cases into appropriate resolution
- The provision of funds for training to be provided to judges on alternative dispute resolution strategies
- Funds for study to explore the feasibility of implementing a Family Court in Tennessee
- The provision of trained foreign language interpreters to the courts or offices of the public defenders
- Funds for court security equipment and the provision of training for law enforcement personnel on court security issues
- Funds for a program coordinator to manage a domestic violence intervention project in East Tennessee
- Funds for the development of a statewide standard reporting form for the General Sessions Courts to use in case filing and disposition data

Special public defenders funded last year in the 12th and 8th Judicial Districts provided specialized defense services for individuals accused of drug-related crimes and facilitated movement of these cases through General Sessions or Circuit Courts. Working in collaboration with Special Drug Prosecutors (also funded through Edward Byrne subawards) in the 12th and 8th Judicial Districts, these individuals ensured the availability of prosecution, defense services, and other court services to reduce the backlog of cases so that justice could be served more swiftly and fairly. The Sentencing Advocate Demonstration Project funded during this reporting period established sentencing specialists in five (5) public defender offices to work with clients and offer the courts a meaningful option between prison and probation by developing individual sentencing plans for offenders that are intended to be both punitive and rehabilitative. Over one hundred forty (140) clients have been served by the Sentencing Advocate Demonstration Project this year, with a total of over seven thousand (7,000) days of incarceration in a state facility being avoided, and over eight thousand (8,000) days in county facilities avoided.

Specially trained Assistant District Attorneys in Tennessee's two charge screen initiatives reviewed all felony and/or non-traffic misdemeanor warrants issued by law enforcement officers to ensure that facts were legally sufficient and that charges were correctly stated in terms of Tennessee statutes. Additionally, intake mediation workers worked with citizens who wished to take out a warrant to determine probable cause before seeking the warrant, advised complainants of various referral options that were more appropriate than a warrant, and effectively screened those seeking a warrant so that only those charges

which were sufficient resulted in warrants. Also workers were assigned to facilitate or coordinate services through volunteer mediators when cases were amenable to mediation. During this fiscal year, the 20th Judicial Charge Screen Project screened approximately four thousand (4,000) citizen complaints. Of that number, only thirty-one percent (31%) of the complaints have resulted in a criminal warrant being issued. Approximately seventeen percent (17%) of the complaints were referred for mediation, and fifty-two percent (52%) were declined for prosecution because of insufficient evidence, lack of witness information, mutual responsibility or other reasons.

A new charge screen project, initiated in the 20th Judicial District during this fiscal year, funded two additional assistant district attorneys to cover two (2) shifts of the seven (7) day per week, twenty-four (24) hour a day operation of the Metropolitan Davidson County Government Police Department. The assistant district attorneys assigned to this project worked with each division of the Police Department to identify cases that do not involve an in-custody defendant. Cases were reviewed, cases files prepared, and an investigation completed. The assistant district attorneys prepared a direct indictment as appropriate, thereby avoiding all of the General Sessions Court settings that result from a case initiation by a criminal warrant. Early evaluation by the District Attorney's office allowed the prosecution team to evaluate the case and complete many "pieces of the puzzle" at a time close enough to the commission of the crime to actually result in additional evidence being recovered. In addition, these assistant district attorneys assisted with the jail docket to select cases for criminal information agreements that save a significant amount of jail time that usually occurs between being bound over from the

General Sessions Court and being arraigned in the Criminal Court. This time was saved because these cases did not require the collection of a case file, the creation of an indictment, or indictment by a grand jury.

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) provided supplemental funds this year to four Drug Courts in the following counties: Davidson, Decatur, Shelby, and Blount. The Davidson County Drug Court remains a prototype of a successful, well-planned collaborative funding effort. The Davidson County Drug Court secured administrative and some operational funds this year through a federal Drug Court Implementation Grant issued by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP). The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) provided complementary funding to the Drug Court by allocating an Edward Byrne Memorial subgrant for the provision of outpatient and aftercare services. A Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) subgrant, also awarded to the Drug Court by OCJP, funded a long-term residential component for male and female clients. Finally, Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG) funds were used to pay for facility maintenance, equipment and personnel that are not covered by RSAT, Byrne or Drug Court Implementation awards.

Drug Courts in Blount and Shelby Counties combined Edward Byrne subawards with federal Drug Court Implementation grants to fund a comprehensive system of substance abuse intervention that included assessment, outpatient, residential, and aftercare services. The Edward Byrne Grant provided the sole source of funding for the Decatur County Drug Court, the State's only operational Juvenile Drug Court Program. An

Edward Byrne subaward enabled this rural county to provide limited assessment, inpatient, outpatient, and aftercare services to the juvenile population in need of substance abuse treatment.

A new subgrant issued to the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts this fiscal year funded the initiation of four (4) new Victim Offender Reconciliation (VORP) projects in Putnam, Sumner, Blount, and Lewis Counties. Regional VORPS are operated by non-profit organizations and utilize volunteers to offer an alternative response to crime and delinquency. Some VORPS offered mediation to first offender juvenile cases and all provided mediation for appropriate adult misdemeanor cases. Co-mediators who were specially trained volunteers recruited from the community conducted mediation in regional VORPS.

A Family Court Feasibility Study was completed this year by Jeff A. Kuhn of Family Justice Strategies through a subcontract with the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts. This study concluded that Tennessee should consider the adoption of a plan to develop a pilot family court project to exercise jurisdiction over all civil family matters including:

- Divorce, child custody, visitation, child and spousal support, paternity and annulment
- Domestic violence orders of protection including temporary custody and support
- Juvenile delinquency
- Juvenile status, runaway, truant and unmanageable petitions
- Dependency, neglect, termination of parental rights, adoption, and

- Mental health and guardianship, excluding probate

The study further concluded that each pilot site should develop a system of family case management and a family case flow plan that aspires to the following:

- One judge/one case manager or team to one family, whenever possible
- Application of the principles of differentiated cases management to family court cases
- Emphasis on early intervention and assessment of family needs
- Emphasis on less adversarial, time and cost-conscious dispute resolution
- Emphasis on civility and courtesy to judges and family court staff and to all customers, internal and external

Three (3) foreign language interpreter subgrants issued this year, one to the Metropolitan Davidson County Public Defender's Office, one to the Metropolitan Davidson County State Trial Courts, and a third to the Administrative Office of the Courts, enabled the court system to address the specialized needs of non-English speaking clients. The subaward issued to the Administrative Office of the Courts established a program to certify and coordinate interpreters for the state court system.

A new subgrant issued to the Metropolitan Government Davidson County State Trial Courts, provided a Spanish-speaking interpreter to help address the needs of the county's criminal justice system. The investigator, responsible to all of the county's criminal court judges, was available to work an unbiased interpreter on behalf of the court for all court proceedings. The interpreter was available to explain criminal justice processes to Spanish-speaking clients, including the roles of participants in the legal system, was

available for needed translation of forms, and was available for translation in referral to alternative sentencing programs. Additionally, a Spanish-speaking interpreter subgrant issued to the Office of the Public Defender in the Metropolitan Davidson County government, provided translation services to Spanish-speaking clients represented by the Office of Public Defender and provided assistance in investigations to support the defense of Spanish-speaking clients and make appropriate referrals to local social service agencies.

The Tennessee Administrative Office of Courts, working in conjunction with the Tennessee Foreign Language Institute (TFLI), established through this project, planned workshops to train individuals who wish to become foreign language interpreters for the court system. Workshops were designed to cover such topics as skills practice, ethical considerations, basic court and legal procedural issues and terminology, and certification testing information and preparation. Ultimately this project will develop a test of certification for court interpreters.

An additional grant, issued to the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts, allowed the agency to review requests and distribute funds to counties for the acquisition of court security equipment to be obtained over a two-year period. Purchased this year were three hundred eighty six (386) magnetometers that were distributed in seventy-two of Tennessee's ninety-five (95) counties. Since the remaining counties were already equipped with magnetometers, this grant has ensured that all of Tennessee's counties are now equipped with this crucial metal-detecting instruments. Additionally, two specially

trained instructors from the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA) completed court security training seminars for law enforcement personnel in Washington, Greene, and Montgomery Counties in addition to law enforcement personnel from the cities of Bartlett and McMinnville.

A new subgrant awarded to the Tennessee Administrative Office of the Courts this year funded two training initiatives focused on Victim Offender Reconciliation Programs. A three-day intensive training session for judges was held this year to expose the courts to the theory behind mediation, teach ways to recognize negotiation as a mixed motive exchange, use interactive exercises to teach the predictability of distributive bargaining, use role plays to identify the underlying interests of interactive bargaining, and demonstrate the factors to be considered when determining whether a case is appropriate for mediation. This workshop, provided during the week of September 28, 1999 provided training to a total of twenty-one (21) judges. Additionally, a Tennessee Victim Offender Mediation Conference was held on August 20th and 21st of 1999 to provide training to individuals involved in the Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) in Tennessee and to promote a sense of community among the seven VORP centers in the state.

A new subgrant issued to the East Tennessee Human Resource Agency this past year funded a program coordinator to oversee and manage the activities of a Domestic Violence Intervention Program. The domestic violence program consisted of twelve (12) weekly two (2) hour sessions divided into eight (8) themes: non-violence, non-

threatening behaviors, respect, support, trust, accountability and honesty, sexual respect, partnership, and negotiation/fairness. Judges could order offenders to attend the entire twelve (12) week program or designated modules within the program.

Another new grant issued this fiscal year to the Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury funded staff to coordinate the development and implementation of a statewide standard reporting form for the General Sessions Courts case filing and disposition data. Implementation of this project will “normalize” General Sessions filing and disposition data so that equitable comparisons of caseloads can be made, construct an inventory of current data storage and retrieval methodologies and capabilities, coordinate with applicable parties for the development of a reporting form that will serve the needs of individual courts and judicial districts, allow the aggregation of statewide general sessions filing and disposition data for use in weighted caseload formulas, and integrate General Sessions Courts into the Tennessee Court Information Systems (TNCIS).

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its primary goal in the Pre-Trial Services Delivery Program to enable the court system to function more efficiently in the processing of referred cases. An objective supporting this goal was to provide resources to the public defenders and prosecutors that will allow for less serious offenders to be diverted from the court system into immediate rehabilitation services. Consistent with this goal and objective, a designated activity was to increase by 25% the number of pre-trial service projects available in judicial districts.

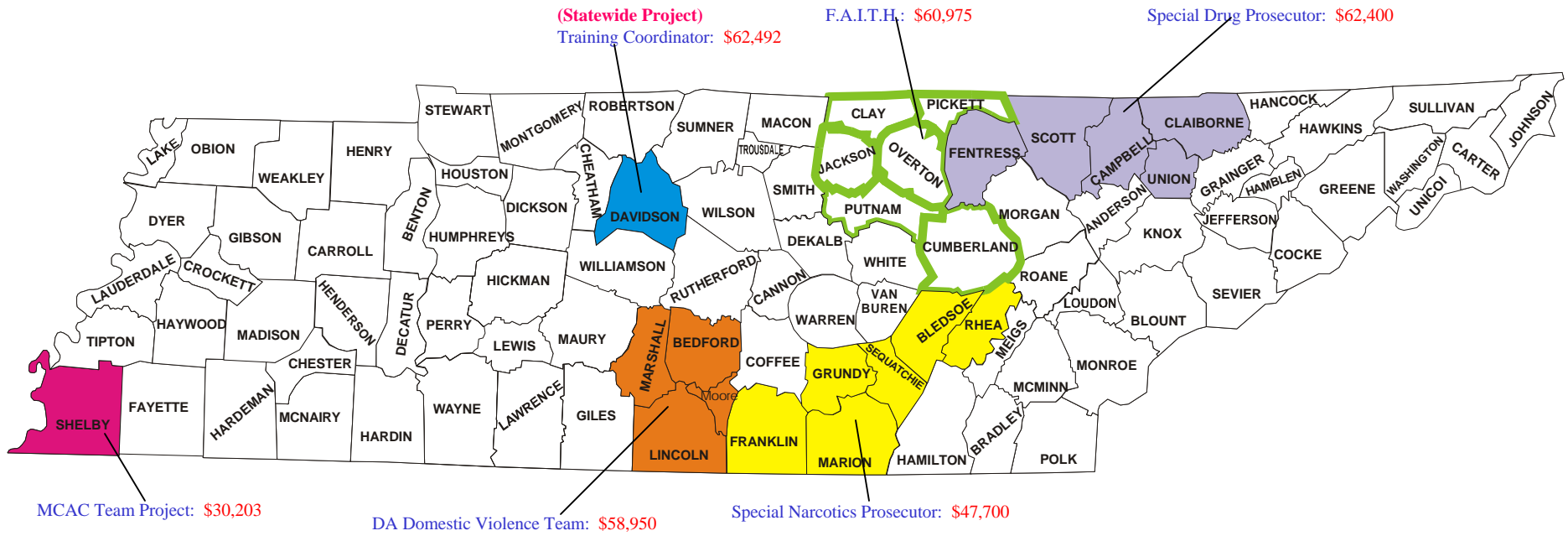
Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above designated goal and objective were to increase by 25% the number of offenders entering newly organized diversion programs and decreasing by 25% the numbers of individuals and length of time individuals were placed on court dockets.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has exceeded its designated goals and objectives in this area. Through the collaborative funding of various initiatives, the number of pre-trial service projects has increased by around forty-two percent (42%). The number of individuals entering newly organized diversion programs has increased by about thirty-four percent (34%) and the number of individuals on court dockets has decreased by approximately twenty-three percent (23%).

Special Prosecution Program



Special Prosecution Programs

The development of specialized investigative techniques, better education of law enforcement staff, and the addition of officers trained in specific areas of crime intervention have expanded and greatly improved the operation of the criminal justice system. A record number of felony, misdemeanor, and domestic violence cases are being reported to, and investigated by, law enforcement personnel annually. The result has been a substantial increase in the volume of cases that must be processed through the judicial system, necessitating the employment of additional prosecuting attorneys to facilitate the appropriate and expedient disposition of these cases. To address the need for additional support in this area the Office of Criminal Justice programs established the program area of Special Prosecution.

The Special Prosecution Program provides funding for the provision, training, and support of prosecutors whose work is dedicated to the prosecution of defendants implicated in child abuse, domestic violence cases, or drug possession/distribution/cultivation. Prosecutors funded through this program attend specialized training and workshops designed to improve their knowledge in assigned areas. They oversee all child and domestic violence cases, and most drug and violent crime cases coming into their respective criminal courts. Some prosecutors also handle misdemeanors coming before the General Sessions and Criminal Courts in their areas. At all levels of the justice process, other assistant prosecutors provide assistance in case resolution through the direction of the lead prosecutor.

During the past fiscal year, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) funded in the area of Special Prosecution Programs six (6) projects. Five (5) projects funded continuation subgrants in the area of special prosecution and one new subgrant was initiated.

A special narcotics prosecutor assigned to the 12th Judicial District, employed through funds awarded in an Edward Byrne subgrant, was responsible for the prosecution of all narcotics offenders with a special emphasis being placed on organized drug offenders. In the 8th Judicial District, a similar special drug prosecutor was employed to prosecute all drug cases in the district at the Grand Jury and Criminal Court levels.

In the 13th Judicial District, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) issued an Edward Byrne subaward for two Assistant District Attorneys, a court advocate, and a secretary to work together as part of a domestic violence team. The court advocate assigned to this grant provides legal assistance to domestic violence victims through the process of acquiring and enforcing civil orders of protection, while Assistant District Attorneys prosecute domestic violence, child abuse and sexual assault cases.

Additionally, in the 30th Judicial District, OCJP issued an Edward Byrne subaward to fund an investigator who functioned as part of a Child Investigative Protective Team (CPIT). This individual assisted in the investigation and successful prosecution of child sexual and severe physical abuse cases.

In the 17th Judicial District, an Assistant District Attorney was employed through an Edward Byrne subaward to handle domestic violence, child abuse and sexual assault cases in the four-county district.

A new subgrant, awarded to the Tennessee District Attorneys General Conference, funded a training coordinator whose function was to:

- develop a training curriculum for all job categories in a prosecutor's office, including investigation and victim services
- track all training courses attended by employees
- assist with the planning and coordination of an annual training seminar
- plan and coordinate specialized training sessions, such as New Prosecutor Orientation, Handling DUI cases, etc.
- Coordinate with the National Advocacy Center on course openings to maximize Tennessee's utilization of the Department of Justice training facility

Goals, Objectives, and Activities

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) established as its goal for the Special Prosecution Program to improve the criminal justice system's response to child abuse, domestic violence and drugs/violent crime through immediate intervention, early case preparation, vertical prosecution, and specialized training which will support prosecutions. An objective supporting this goal was that local law enforcement agencies, courts, District Attorneys General offices, along with existing data would be used to evaluate the judicial districts in greatest needs of specialized prosecutors. Consistent

with this goal and objective, project activities included the negotiation and funding of as many relevant individual projects as practicable, employing through grant-funded projects specialized prosecutors and support staff in the areas identified above and ensuring the provision of appropriate training activities.

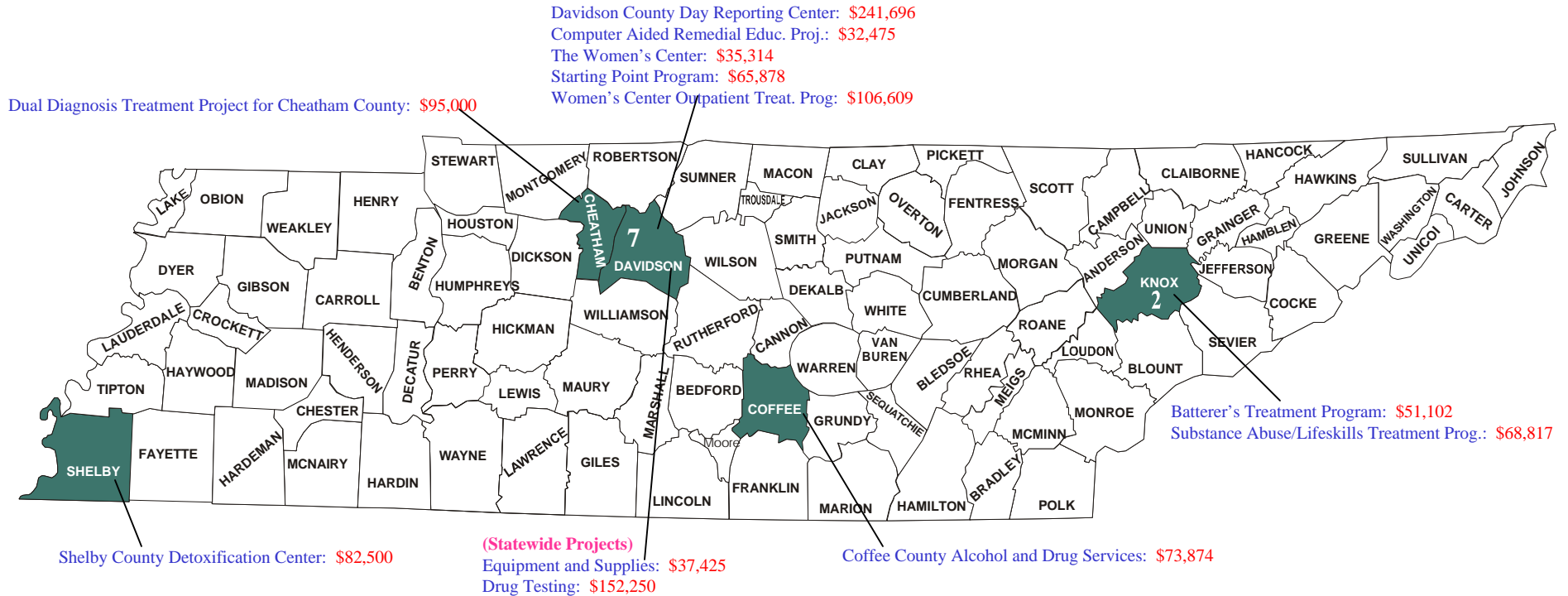
Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included increasing by 50% the number of special prosecutors to be employed, an increase of at least 25% in the number of special case crime warrants and convictions, a 25% decrease in the time required for case disposition, and at least a 25% increase in training workshops to be provided.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs has substantially increased the number of special prosecutors employed in each judicial district. Information regarding the specific numbers of special crime warrants and convictions has not been readily available, however anecdotal information suggests that the goal of a 25% increase has been achieved. There has been a reported decrease in case disposition time of approximately 23% and the number of training workshops has increased by approximately 30%.

Correctional Treatment Program



Project Locations

Correctional Treatment Program

The increase in the reporting, investigation and prosecution of all types of crime has resulted in a substantial increase in the number of individuals incarcerated in prisons and jails. Many incarcerated offenders evidence a sustained history of substance abuse that has been a precipitating or exacerbating factor in their engagement in criminal behavior. Without the provision of effective substance abuse treatment services, these offenders will resume their drug or alcohol abuse upon release from incarceration and recidivism will likely result. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs has sought to develop a continuum of substance abuse treatment services for the offender population through a combination of projects funded by the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) and Edward Byrne Memorial Grants.

The Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) Grant, administered by the Corrections Program Office (CPO), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), provides for residential substance abuse treatment of six to twelve months in duration for the offender population. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) currently has four (4) continuation projects funded through the RSAT grant; one project located at the Tennessee Prison for Women, one project located in the Washington County Jail, and two projects located respectively in Shelby County and Davidson County Community Corrections. Additionally, during the past fiscal year, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) issued a new RSAT subgrant to the Tennessee Department of

Children's Services (TDCS) for the initiation of a new substance abuse treatment project to service Juvenile males. The OCJP has used Edward Byrne subawards to provide non-residential, outpatient counseling or drug testing services for the offenders in some of the same geographic locations where the RSAT projects are funded, thereby helping to ensure an effective continuum of substance abuse treatment programming. During this fiscal year, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) funded twelve (12) treatment projects, ten (10) of which were specifically designed to address substance abuse treatment or assessment needs of incarcerated individuals.

Continuation subgrants for the Starting Point Project, and the Women's Center projects were issued this year by the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) to the Office Of the Public Defender, Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. The Starting Point Project is designed as an eight-week outpatient substance abuse education/treatment program for men incarcerated in downtown Nashville detention facilities. This project links with other initiatives in the Metropolitan Davidson County Sheriff's Office to provide ongoing aftercare and substance abuse counseling services for the men during and after incarceration.

The Women's Center Project is a three-phase outpatient treatment program lasting two years in duration. It provides services to female offenders involved in criminal activities, a component of which often involves participation in prostitution as a means of financing long-term drug addictions. A total of approximately seventy-five (75) women have completed the Women's Center intensive treatment program since the project's inception

with over forty (40) offenders placed in aftercare status. Of the forty (40) ladies on aftercare status, over fifty percent (50%) work full-time and live on their own. One project graduate has been awarded her Bachelor's degree. Less than twenty percent (20%) of the women who completed the intensive therapy portion of the treatment program returned to jail.

Continuation funds were also provided to the Davidson County Sheriff's Office for the Day Reporting Center, an intensive outpatient treatment project for non-violent offenders experiencing problems with substance abuse or having dual diagnoses. This three-phase project provides the criminal justice community with an alternative to incarceration for selected non-violent, misdemeanor offenders through strict community supervision and structured reintegration services. It includes intensive outpatient substance abuse treatment services, cognitive re-education or restructuring techniques, random drug screens and curfew calls, case management, community service work, GED/literary education, employment counseling, and psychiatric consultation as indicated by need. The project also links with various community resources to ensure the effective long-term re-integration of the offender into the community. For example, the facility is working with the Nashville Career Advancement Center, a division of Middle Tennessee Career Center, to facilitate employment, career goals, and career matching. Several non-profit agencies in the community have benefited from community service hours worked by the offender population. Since initiation of this project in January 1999 over one hundred sixty (160) referrals have been received with more than eighty-five (85) offenders accepted for program placement.

The Knox County Sheriff's Office continued to implement this past year a subgrant funding aftercare services and Life Skills classes to offenders who are receiving substance abuse treatment programming. As a complement to this project, many of the offenders who also had issues with domestic violence were treated through a separate project funded this year by an additional Edward Byrne Memorial Grant.

The Tennessee Department of Correction continued during this reporting period the final year of its subgrant to conduct extensive substance abuse baseline testing to determine the degree of prevalence of illegal substance abuse within the inmate population. Approximately ninety percent (90%) of the inmate population had been randomly tested at the time of the preparation of this report.

Several new substance abuse treatment subgrants were issued this fiscal year: the Cheatham County Dual Diagnosis Project, the Coffee County Alcohol and Drug Services Project, the Shelby County Detoxification Center Project, and the Shelby County Aftercare Services Project.

The Cheatham County Jail project provided a specialized case manager to conduct an initial assessment of all incarcerated individuals suspected of having a dual diagnosis. If the assessment validated the presence of a dual diagnosis, the individual was then referred to the Buffalo Valley Alcohol and Substance Abuse Treatment Center and Vanderbilt Mental Health Services to receive needed treatment intervention. During the

past year, the project screened over twenty (20) individuals suspected of dual diagnosis and provided case management and treatment for approximately eighty-five percent (85%) of these individuals.

The Coffee County Jail Alcohol and Drug Services project identified and implemented a jail-based substance abuse treatment program for inmates determined to be chemically dependent. Potential candidates for this project were referred by defense attorneys, the presiding judge, and self-referrals from inmates requesting treatment. Inmates referred for treatment were assessed by a licensed alcohol and drug counselor to validate the need for treatment. Appropriate individuals were then placed in group therapy sessions designed to help them understand and manage their addiction. This project provided assessment and treatment services to over forty (40) offenders during this reporting period, with approximately sixty percent (60%) of the offenders completing treatment.

The Shelby County Detoxification Center project initiated through a subcontract with the University of Tennessee Medical Group a program designed to divert high-risk individuals with serious addictive behaviors from the criminal justice system and into the medical care system. Under provisions of the subgrant, individuals detained by law enforcement for public intoxication were accepted directly into the treatment facility, bypassing the jail. Once placed in the detoxification center, medical and psychiatric services were provided. Partnerships were formed with community-based resources to provide linkage for integrated treatment and follow-up services to be provided once

detoxification had been completed. Data on the number of individuals successfully diverted by this project was being compiled at the time of the preparation of this report.

The Shelby County Aftercare Services Project provided transitional services for offenders completing the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) project and who were subsequently released into the community. Through a subcontract initiated with Correctional Counseling Inc. (CCI), an aftercare services package was provided that consisted of counseling sessions focused on employability skills, stress management, communication skills, self-esteem and relapse prevention.

In addition to substance abuse treatment initiatives, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCP) funded two additional projects in the area of Correctional Treatment this year. The first project, initiated through a subgrant with the Davidson County Sheriff's Office, funded computer aided remedial education to incarcerated offenders. A second project provided funds for supplies and equipment to support the activities of the Tennessee Corrections Institute.



The Computer-aided education project funded hardware, software, and a certified instructor to support a comprehensive computer aided education program to increase the rate of functional literacy among incarcerated males. Eighteen (18) computers, added to the education center of the county jail, served a population last year of over three hundred (300) inmates. Many inmates participating in this project were successful in completing their GED. One inmate scored within the ninety-ninth (99th) percentile on all subjects assessed on the GED, thereby achieving higher test scores than any other individual in the state.

Also funded this year were two projects that provided equipment and supplies necessary to support the training activities of the Tennessee Corrections Institute. The Institute provides specialized training each year to hundreds of law enforcement personnel responsible for ensuring the safe operation of Tennessee's county jails. Byrne funds were used to purchase training materials including videos, overhead projectors, computer hardware, and software.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its goal for Correctional Treatment to develop a continuum of substance abuse treatment for offenders. The objective supporting this goal was to solicit proposals from jails, prisons, and community corrections programs, which would augment activities of the Drug Courts, or RSAT funded initiatives. Consistent with this goal and objective, activities specified were the review, evaluation, and selection of providers for the development of a continuum of substance abuse treatment.

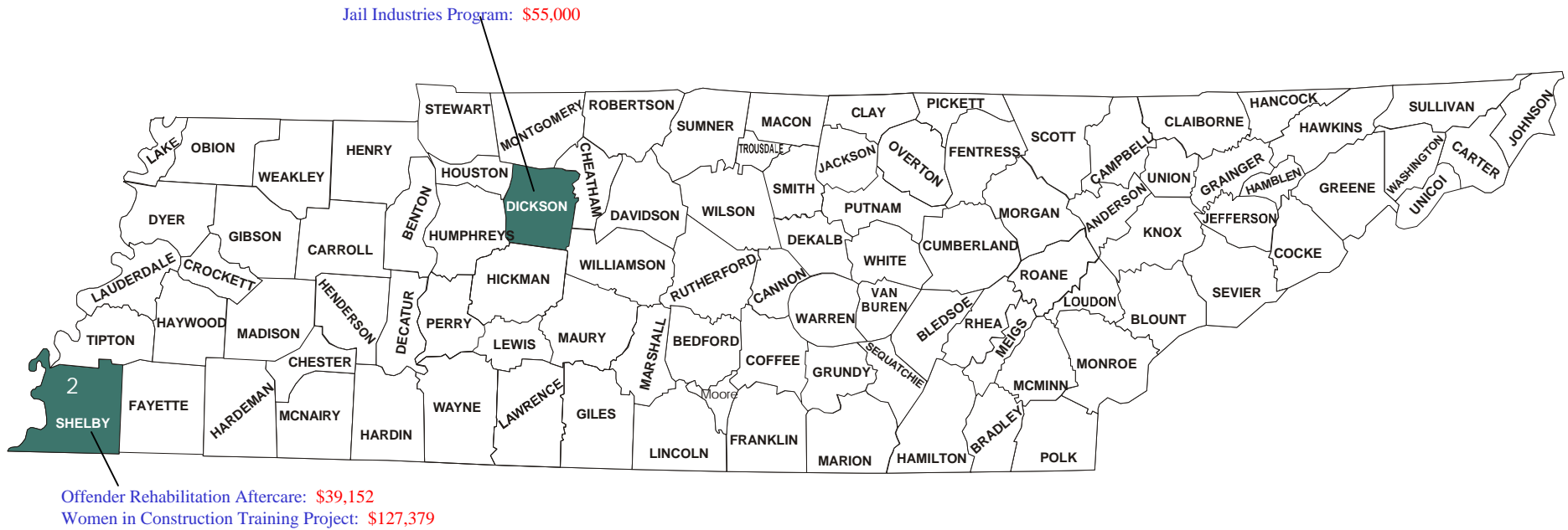
Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goal and objective include the establishment of at least four (4) substance abuse treatment projects that would impact inmates through a reduction or cessation of drug use and criminal activities.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results:

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) exceeded its goals for this program area by establishing or maintaining the operation of five (5) RSAT-funded projects plus seven (7) Byrne funded projects specifically designed to address the needs of substance-abusing offenders.

Prison/Jail Industries Program



 Project Locations

Prison/Jail Industries Program

The development of marketable job skills and vocational expertise is central to the successful re-integration of the offender into society. Many offenders in the criminal justice system have not completed high school and most have few marketable job skills. Some projects within the area of correctional treatment (such as the computer aided remedial education project) have sought to provide enhanced educational opportunities for the offender population so that they will be better equipped to enter a highly competitive job market. Projects funded in the area of prison/jail industries seek to further enhance the offender's chances for successful re-integration into the community by providing opportunities for the development of competency-based marketable job skills. Additionally, such projects provide opportunities for offenders to "make restitution" to the communities that have been victimized by their crimes.

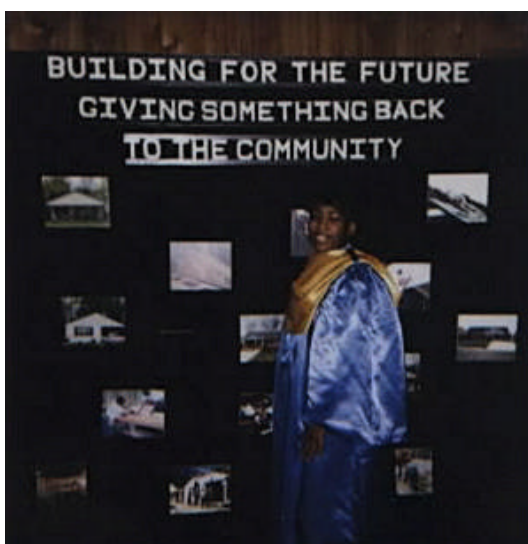
The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) this year funded three projects in the area of prison/jail industries: the Dickson County Jail Industries Project, the Shelby County Women in Construction project and Shelby Co. Rehabilitation Aftercare.

The Dickson County Jail Industries project was designed to place inmates in a realistic working and training environment that would enable them to acquire marketable job skills and enhance their ability to secure gainful employment upon release from incarceration. Components of this project included:

- the provision of Adult Basic Education classes
- the provision of vocational training services
- work experience assignments within the community

In implementing this grant, the Dickson County Sheriff's Office contracted with teachers from the local school system who were experienced instructors in Adult Basic Education to provide core curriculum instruction to advance offenders toward pursuit of a Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED). The Dickson County Vocational Training Center provided training in auto body repair, engine tune-up, and building trades courses. All training programs involved goods and services that the offenders could provide to local government agencies, thereby reducing the cost to taxpayers for housing offenders and maintaining their care and safety. The Dickson County Sheriff's Office also established a Jail Industry Advisory Group composed of local business leaders to provide direction in developing a business plan for the project. During the past reporting period, over fifteen (15) offenders participated in this project, completing hundreds of hours of labor for the community's churches, public buildings, and private business establishments. Less than twelve percent (12%) of offenders completing this project were subsequently re-arrested during this reporting period.

The Shelby County Women in Construction project was designed to train minimum to medium security female offenders in construction trades that could lead to full-time employment, provide a means for contributing to family support, and provide an opportunity to make restitution to the community. This project was designed to complement and build upon the nationally acclaimed Roof Truss and Wall Paneling



project that serves male offenders within the same facility. By terms of both project models, the males constructed homes for low-income families through a collaborative agreement with Habitat for Humanity. Females participating in the Women in Construction project finished the interior and exterior of the homes once the male offenders had completed the construction. Interior and exterior finishing of the homes involved light carpentry work, painting, and minor structural refinements of the new homes. Over fifty offenders graduated from this project since its inception and more than half of them have been gainfully employed following release into the community. It is estimated that the cumulative labor savings resulting from this project would approximate over \$20,000. The known recidivism rate for offenders completing this project is less than twenty percent (20%).

Goals, Objectives and Activities

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) established as its goals for the prison jail industries program the following: to provide trade and personal skills training in a multi-faceted program approach for qualified inmates who volunteer for the program, to train inmates in marketable job and employment skills, and to place inmates in training related positions.

Objectives supporting these goals include the enhancement of the offender's ability to become an employable citizen, reducing the rate of recidivism, and enabling offenders to become productive members of society.

Consistent with these goals and objectives, project activities include offender participation in substance abuse treatment programs, completion of trade skills or vocational training classes, and offender participation in collaborative work projects.

Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance Measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included:

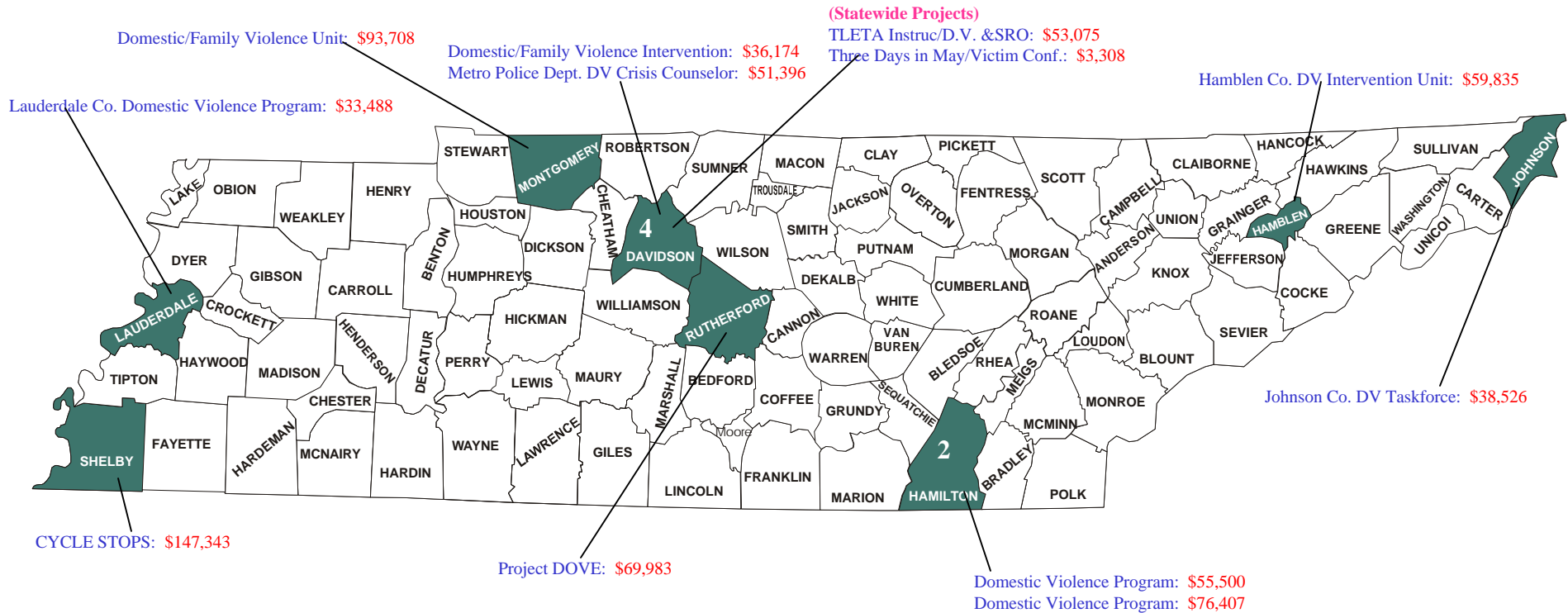
- Inmate completion of drug rehabilitation programs
- Participation in relapse prevention training
- A 25% reduction in recidivism for project graduates
- The attainment of a skilled trade for project participants

- An 80% graduation rate for project graduates, with 50% being placed in appropriate jobs upon release from incarceration

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

Data maintained on employment, re-arrests, and subsequent re-incarceration of offenders completing treatment in these three programs indicates that the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has been successful in achieving its designated goals and objectives.

Domestic/Family Violence Training Program



Project Locations

Numbers Indicate Multiple Projects

Domestic/Family Violence Training Program

Tennessee, like other states, has evidenced a rising trend in the number of domestic violence cases reported and investigated annually. As in the prior year, over 50,000 women and children received services from domestic violence projects in Tennessee during the 1999/2000 fiscal year. According to the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), between 1996-1998 a total of 4,234 arrests were made in Tennessee for Forcible Sex Offenses or 6.7% of all violent crime arrests. Additionally, a total of 1,632 arrests were made for stalking in Tennessee or 2.4 of all non-violent crimes against person arrests.

The City of Memphis has used collaborative funds from the Edward Byrne, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) or STOP Violence Against Women grants, and OJP administered domestic violence grants to develop a comprehensive approach to domestic violence intervention that is rapidly becoming a model for replication across the State. This model involves the utilization of A Family Trouble Center, divided into two components. One component focuses on the investigation and prosecution of domestic violence cases while the remaining component is focused on victim advocacy and intervention. The Victim Advocacy Project operates a mobile office, which provides an easily accessible, safe and nurturing environment for counseling victims. Additionally, walk-in counseling services and phone referrals to other agencies within the community are made. The Victim Advocacy Project further serves as a conduit on information and training on domestic violence incidents and intervention. Center staff, funded in part

through the Edward Byrne Grant, has provided domestic violence training to over 1,000 individuals including District Attorneys, Department of Children's Services Employees, Court Appointed Special Advocates, probation officers and Drug Court staff.

Similarly, the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County has used collaborative funding from the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) (STOP Violence Against Women) Grant, Edward Byrne Grant, and Office of Justice Programs administered grants to fund an integrated network of domestic violence intervention. This network incorporates specialized domestic violence crisis counselors, Victim/Witness Coordinators, additional officers to serve orders of protection, specialized domestic violence prosecutors, and the availability of study materials, videos, handouts, interactive systems, and equipment to provide assistance to children and adults receiving domestic violence intervention services.

The Office Of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) makes possible training to law enforcement officers in a comprehensive manner through the implementation of specialized domestic violence instructor employed by the Tennessee Department of Safety. This individual, working through the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA), provides training to over 600 law enforcement officers annually on issues related to domestic violence investigation and intervention. Each officer enrolled in this class is required to complete practical exercises in domestic violence intervention in addition to the completion of a basic eight-hour block of classroom instruction. Additionally the instructor is responsible for the maintenance of a library of domestic

violence videos, training materials, and training aids in domestic violence that are available for dissemination to local law enforcement personnel. During the past year, approximately 10 domestic violence classes were conducted for departments requesting training and over 30 departmental visits were made to assist in domestic violence training activities. Also the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has provided grant funded prosecutors and/or training activities in the 6th, 8th, and 17th Judicial Districts of the State, provided funding for over 10 specialized domestic violence investigators in Blount, Knox, Rutherford, Hamblen, and Montgomery Counties, funded six domestic violence crisis counselors in Shelby and Hamilton Counties, and two domestic violence patrol officers in Hamblen County.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) established as its goals for the Domestic/Family Violence Training Program the following: to provide education and/or training for police officers involving all stages of family/domestic violence case investigation; to provide training for prosecutors for better preparation and prosecution of family/domestic violence; and to provide training to victim witness coordinators who provide liaison services between victim/witnesses and district attorneys general during all stages of the legal process.

Objectives supporting these goals include the enhancement of officers' knowledge of victim and offender dynamics in domestic violence cases, the enhancement of the ability

of prosecutors to successfully prosecute cases involving family/domestic violence, and the provision of training for victim witness coordinators.

Consistent with these goals and objectives, project activities include the attendance of police officers in specialized training schools for the receipt of certified course instruction in domestic violence intervention and specialized training for prosecutors and Victim/Witness Coordinators.

Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included increasing by 25% the number of law enforcement officers attending training on domestic violence, and increasing by 25% the number of victim witness coordinators receiving domestic violence training.

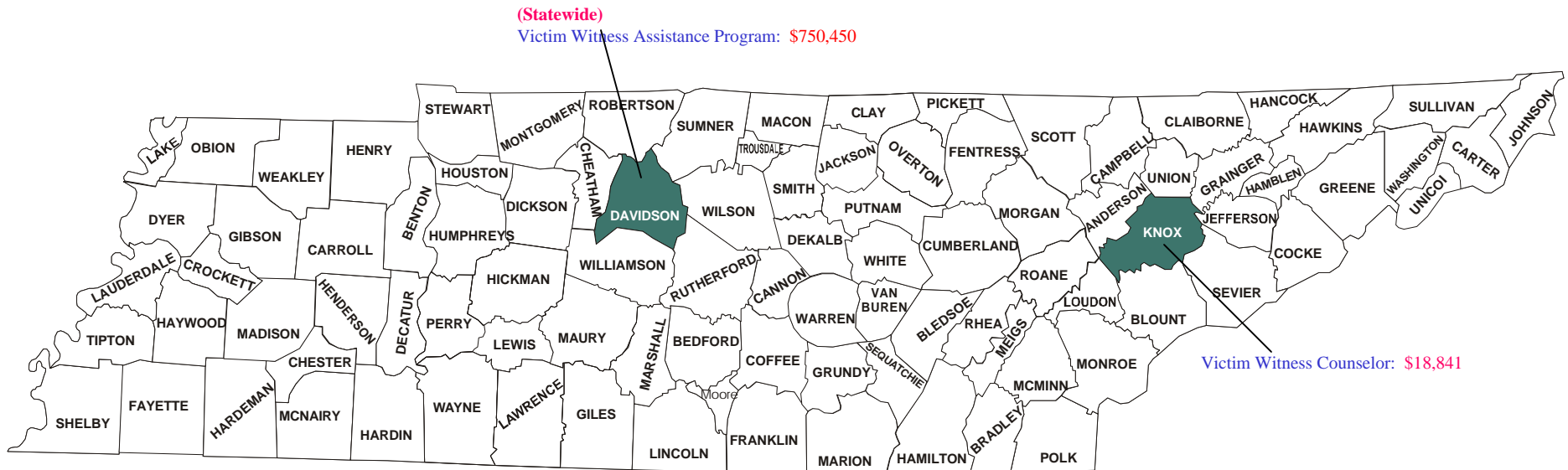
Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) established performance measures for this program that included increasing by 25% the number of law enforcement officers and Victim/Witnesses being trained in domestic violence intervention, and the enabling of some of these individuals to implement training courses in their regional jurisdictions following completion of standardized training courses. With the implementation of a specialized domestic violence trainer at the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy (TLETA) and regional training initiatives that have been undertaken,

Tennessee has exceeded its goal in this area and has increased by over 34% the number of the above individuals being trained.

In Davidson County, (20th Judicial District) a family advocate was employed through an Edward Byrne subaward to work in conjunction with the Domestic Violence Prosecution Unit. This unit worked collaboratively with various components in the criminal justice system to conduct initial arrests, acquire pertinent information regarding assaults and alert prosecutors to any special or complicating factors. Additionally, the unit addressed the safety issues of victims, provided court information and advocacy, crisis intervention services, and assisted with referrals.

Victim/Witness Program



Project Locations

Victim/Witness Program

The criminal justice system has traditionally been offender-oriented, focusing on the apprehension, prosecution, punishment, rehabilitation and rights of the offender. Too often in the judicial and social service system victims of crime have not received the consideration and support services they need and deserve. Such services are critical in enabling these individuals to recuperate from the trauma inflicted on them and resume healthy productive lives. Crime victims further need support and encouragement provided to them throughout complicated judicial processes that may be both confusing and intimidating. Without the provision of such assistance, many victims often feel “lost in the system” and may be unable to initiate or participate in processes necessary to ensure that offenders are properly processed through the court system.

In November 1998 Tennessee enacted the Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights. This important amendment to the Tennessee Constitution included a new section specifically written to protect the rights of those who have been victimized by acts of crime and domestic violence. During this year’s legislative session, additional victims’ rights legislation was passed including a bill that permits victims to have crime victim advocates or victim-witness coordinators present at any defense interviews. The passage of the Crime Victims’ Bill of Rights and subsequent legislation placed increased demands on the service delivery systems designed to meet the specialized needs of the victim population.

To meet the rising demand for Victim/Witness services, Tennessee continued this fiscal year the implementation of a collaborative planning process involving both state and federal funds. The District Attorney's Offices in each of Tennessee's judicial districts continued to fund during this fiscal year thirty-one (31) state Victim/Witness Coordinators and five (5) Assistant Victim/Witness Coordinators. Funds allocated for this initiative (approximately 1.2 million each year) continued to be generated from a 14% state litigation tax. A few Victim/Witness Coordinators were also funded during this reporting period by individual counties or through the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant. Additionally, The Office Of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) continued to allocate approximately \$719,000 in Violence Against Women Act (VAWA or STOP Violence Against Women) Grant funds to support victim witness services. This allocation provided for 6 Victim/Witness Coordinators, 15 court advocates for victims of crimes and 6 subgrants funding a combination of Victim/Witness Coordinators and specialized domestic violence prosecutors. The OCJP also continued its allocation of approximately \$854,000 in Edward Byrne Grant funds for 36 additional Assistant Victim Witness Coordinator positions. Like the Drug and Violent Crime Task Forces, the funds allocated through the Byrne Grant to the Victim/Witness Program are not limited in duration to four years. This continued funding is necessary in order to ensure the continued provision of this vital service. The collaborative funding allocated through State and federal appropriations has enabled the State to approximate the ratio of one (1) Victim/Witness Coordinator to every three (3) Assistant Attorneys General statewide as recommended by the National Organization of Victims Advocacy (NOVA).

Assistant Victim Witness Coordinators, funded through a statewide Victim/Witness Coordinator Project, are responsible for carrying out victim/witness services operating out of the offices of various District Attorneys General. Persons assigned to these positions work as part of the prosecution team and assist in informing the victim about procedures, court dates, crisis intervention, support services, and appropriate referrals. They also provide notification to the victim relative to the status of the investigation, the arrest and pre-trial release of the offender, the filing of charges or dismissal of any or all charges, the scheduling of court procedures, the terms of negotiated guilty pleas or the rendering of a verdict after trial, the opportunity to present to the Court a victim impact statement concerning any financial, social, psychological, or physical harm or loss suffered by the victim, and information on all sentencing dates and dates upon which the offender will be parole eligible.

During the past fiscal year, the Assistant Victim/Witness Coordinators, funded through the Edward Byrne Grant, have made approximately 84,000 phone contacts with crime victims, completed over 32,750 office visits, made referrals to other agencies in over 5,350 cases, and spent over 19,500 hours in court support services. Additionally, over 3,500 contacts have been made regarding the Criminal Injury Compensation Fund Applications.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its primary goal in the Victim/Witness Program the expansion and targeting of comprehensive coordinated services to victims/witnesses. Objectives

supporting this goal include contacting victims following the issuance of a warrant, providing early intervention, court information, advocacy, etc. to victims, the provision of continuing support and education for victims and potential victims of violence and addressing the needs of any special victim populations. Activities consistent with this goal and objectives were to provide earlier contact with victims and witnesses, to encourage their cooperation with the agencies involved in the prosecution of perpetrators, provide notification to victims and witnesses of trial information, to answer questions and make referrals to social service agencies, and to attend court proceedings with victim/witnesses.

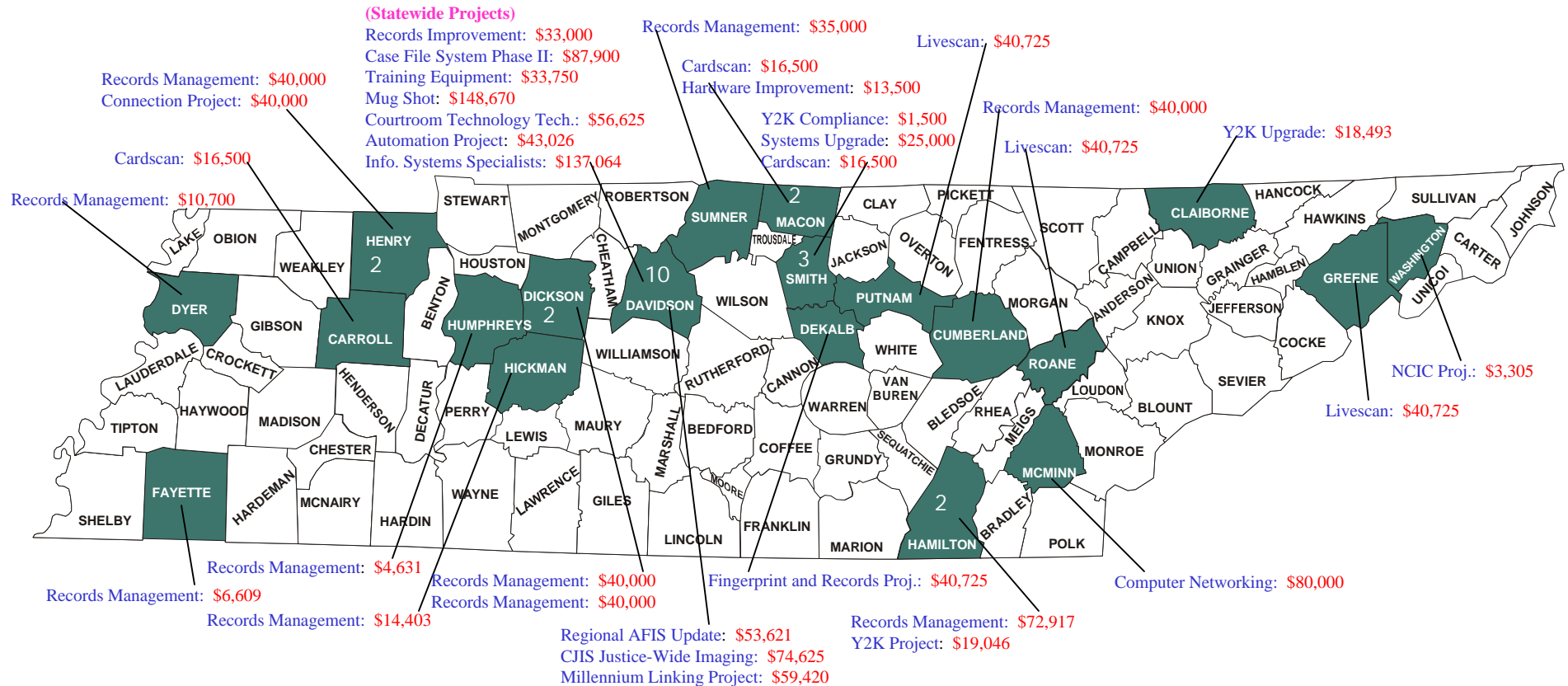
Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measure indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included the notification of victim/witnesses within 72 hours in 90% of the cases, a 10% increase in the number of victim/witnesses assisted, and a 25% increase in conviction rates where these services are applied.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The Victim/Witness Program has been largely successful in achieving its designated goals and objectives with notification to victim/witnesses occurring within seventy-two (72) hours in 95% of the cases. The number of victim/witnesses assisted through this initiative has increased by over 20% and available data on conviction rates indicates an increase of around 21% in cases where victim/witness services were provided.

Criminal Justice Information System Program



Project Locations

Numbers Indicate Multiple Projects

Criminal Justice Information System Program

Tennessee, like other states, has a history of fragmented, inadequate, and incomplete criminal justice records information. The lack of accurate, reliable criminal history information that can be shared expeditiously among a variety of stakeholders in the criminal justice community has been a significant obstacle to the effective apprehension and prosecution and adjudication of suspected offenders.

In the late 1980's, the FBI implemented an incident based crime statistics program called the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS). This program, unlike the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR) which it replaces, allows each crime occurrence in an incident to be reported as opposed to only one crime per incident. Due to lack of funding, Tennessee was one of only six states not participating in the UCR program in 1994. The State stopped participating in UCR in 1979. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs awarded to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation in 1995 an Edward Byrne subgrant in collaboration with a National Criminal History Improvement Program (NCHIP) subgrant to initiate development of the Tennessee Incident Based Reporting System (TIBRS), which would allow Tennessee to participate in the FBI NIBRS program. The project also supported the establishment of a central repository for criminal history records information within the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI).

The TIBRS system incorporates all required elements of the NIBRS reporting system plus nineteen additional elements. These elements are:

➤ **Gang Information**

Gang Activity

Gang Type

Gang Name

Home Invasion (If burglary and violent offense in same incident)

➤ **Drugs**

Location of Marijuana (indoor or outdoor)

Number of plots

Latitude

Longitude

➤ **Law Enforcement Officer Killed/Assaulted (LEOKA)**

LEOKA Incident Type

LEOKA Assignment Type

LEOKA Activity Type

➤ **College Information**

School Code

Campus (on or off)

Classification (student, faculty, etc.)

➤ **Domestic Violence**

Transported to a safe place

Violation of Order of Protection

➤ **Arrestee Information (Group A Offense)**

State Control Number

Arrestee Name

Local law enforcement agencies began reporting to the TIBRS program in July 1996. Approximately 100 agencies began reporting at that time. Information is collected on all crimes known to law enforcement including offender, victim, crime circumstances, and arrest information. The program also collects information on property crimes and detailed information on drug crimes. The FBI certified the TIBRS program on July 28, 1998, under the original NIBRS standards. Tennessee was only the twelfth state in the nation to achieve this certification.

For several years, the need for the data generated by a Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) program was not highly recognized, but in recent years the value of data has become more easily seen. As resources become more limited, the need for the crime statistics data has become more critical in order to formulate decisions targeting the funds to the most needy areas. Crime statistics were also needed to compete for a large portion of the federal crime dollars. Prior to implementation of the TIBRS program, some local Tennessee agencies were collecting and submitting crime data directly to the FBI, but most local police and sheriff's departments collected the data on offense and incident report forms without an analysis being done and without information being forwarded to the FBI.

The data collected is commonly found on almost all offense and incident reports used by law enforcement agencies, but due to the volume of the data, the system is most efficient if the data is entered, stored and analyzed in computers. This poses another problem concerning agencies that do not have computer equipment. In 1992 and 1995, TBI's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) conducted a needs assessment of local law enforcement agencies in Tennessee to determine the computer capabilities of law enforcement. The survey indicated many jurisdictions did not have minimal equipment necessary to support statewide Incident Based efforts. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has therefore awarded over the past three to five years a substantial amount of funds to local law enforcement agencies to support the computer, hardware, and technological equipment necessary to comply with the TIBRS reporting requirement. The Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP), in support of the TIBRS initiative, also requires that local law enforcement agencies comply with Fingerprint Reporting Requirements and TIBRS Submission requirements in order to qualify for grant funds received through this Office. Additionally, TBI is performing audits on the data of submitting agencies. This auditing will ensure data quality and accuracy. Each submitting agency is in a biennial schedule for audits.

In order to support law enforcement agencies with the collection and electronic submission of fingerprint information, the Office of Criminal Justice Programs (OCJP) has worked collaboratively with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and staff of the criminal history repository to aid local law enforcement agencies with the purchase,

installation, maintenance and line charges associated with Livescan and Cardscan machines. Utilized money from a special allocation resulting from recent legislation has assisted over twenty (20) local law enforcement agencies with this cost.

During the last two years, the State of Tennessee, under the leadership of the Criminal Justice Records Improvement Task Force, has begun to plan for and address the issue of an integrated criminal justice records system for Tennessee. It is critical that Tennessee's criminal justice systems components begin to share needed information, reduce data entry, duplication, and automate to the highest level possible all functions. This means that all components of the system must work together to achieve these goals. Adequate short and long term planning are the best means available to achieve these goals and objectives.

Tennessee has asked for and received technical assistance from several sources. The National Criminal Justice Association, the Office of the General Counsel of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs and the Kentucky Governor's Office of Information Resources have been very helpful. One of Tennessee's major criminal justice system's initiatives for the next few years will be the integration and automation of the criminal justice information system.

The information generated from crime statistics information is being provided to state and local governments so that limited resources may be targeted to the most critical areas. This data also provides more accurate planning data for the Department of Correction and

is used as an investigative tool for local and state law enforcement agencies. Some of the additional data elements have been proposed specifically with that purpose in mind such as name of victim, arrestee, offender and modus operandi.

Goals, Objectives and Activities

Tennessee established as its primary goal for criminal justice records improvement to improve criminal justice records through the development of increased use of technology and the sharing of criminal justice system information through criminal justice system integration.

Objectives supporting this goal include the improvement of the quality of arrest, disposition, and general crime data information reported in the state repository, increasing the quality of state criminal history records arrest and disposition information through more thorough information reported to the state criminal history repository, the development of a statewide automated digitized booking system with all sheriff and police departments and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), and the establishment of a reporting system compatible with the TBI and FBI. Additional objectives included collaboration among agencies and improved coordination of funding by various organizations to criminal justice records/technology activities, and the establishment and enhancement of criminal justice information systems technology in the city, county, judicial district, and state levels.

Activities consistent with these objectives included the provision of training and instruction to law enforcement personnel on compliance with TIBRS reporting requirements, the initiation of a system of fingerprint cards and quality control, the provision of funds to local law enforcement facilities for computers, software, and related technology, central repository certification by 1998 with at least 150 agencies reporting, and an increase in the number of agencies automated each year from the baseline established in the criminal history records improvement plan.

Performance Measures and Evaluation Methods

Performance measures indicating attainment of the above referenced goals and objectives included having central repository certification by 1998, with at least 150 reporting agencies, conducting periodic meetings on criminal records improvement, increasing annually the number of agencies capable of automated criminal records submission, and the withholding of grant funds from agencies not complying with the TIBRS reporting requirements.

Program Accomplishments and Evaluation Results

The number of submitting agencies has grown to 327 law enforcement agencies and 82 colleges/universities as of June 30, 1999. The number of submitting agencies that are certified by TBI is 80%. The percentage of all law enforcement departments submitting to the system is 78%, with most other law enforcement agencies expected to be submitting to the system by 9/30/99. Over 1,500 personnel were trained during this reporting period on some form of TIBRS, with the number expected to increase in

additional years. As previously stated, the FBI certified the TIBRS program on July 28, 1998, under the original NIBRS standards.